

SOCCER

WEEKLY

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WHO GETS THE BIG DROP?

DAVID JACK asks the important question

WHO GOES DOWN TO STATE LEAGUE?

That's the big question in the National Soccer League's Australian Conference — with only two rounds to go.

Right now, five clubs are teetering on the brink of disaster.

The haunted five are Penrith, Parramatta Melita, Sydney Croatia, St George and Blacktown Demons.

Oddly enough, four of the five are based in Sydney's western or south-western suburbs — an area we were told was wide open for development, an area where the future of Soccer in New South Wales was assured.

It may be just coincidence but it does not say much for the game's future if it is in the hands of teams which have struggled all year merely to survive in the NSL.

Aside from that, however, let's jump in with both feet and make a fearless prediction about the team due for the big drop!

As far as points are concerned, Blacktown, Sydney Croatia and St George are slightly better off than their

companions in distress.

Blacktown have 26 points in the kitty. Croatia and Saints have 25.

This must put extra pressures on Penrith and Melita who have only 24 points.

Since goals could actually decide which team goes down, let's take a look at which teams are better placed in this department.

St George come out much superior to the rest ... their goals for and against being identical.

Against this, Croatia and Melita are each on minus seven; Blacktown have minus nine and Penrith are bottom of the list with minus 11.

The final round will be a challenge affair and all the teams threatened by relegation will be up against opposition of similar quality.

But next weekend will be the real crunch when the final ordinary round is contested.

Penrith are away to Blacktown and cannot be optimistic about getting anything from their journey.

Melita are away to Sydney City and, similarly, would regard even one point as a welcome, unex-

pected bonus.

Croatia, home to Marconi, should pick up a point, perhaps two.

As for St George, they face fearsome foes in the superbly in-form Sydney Olympic.

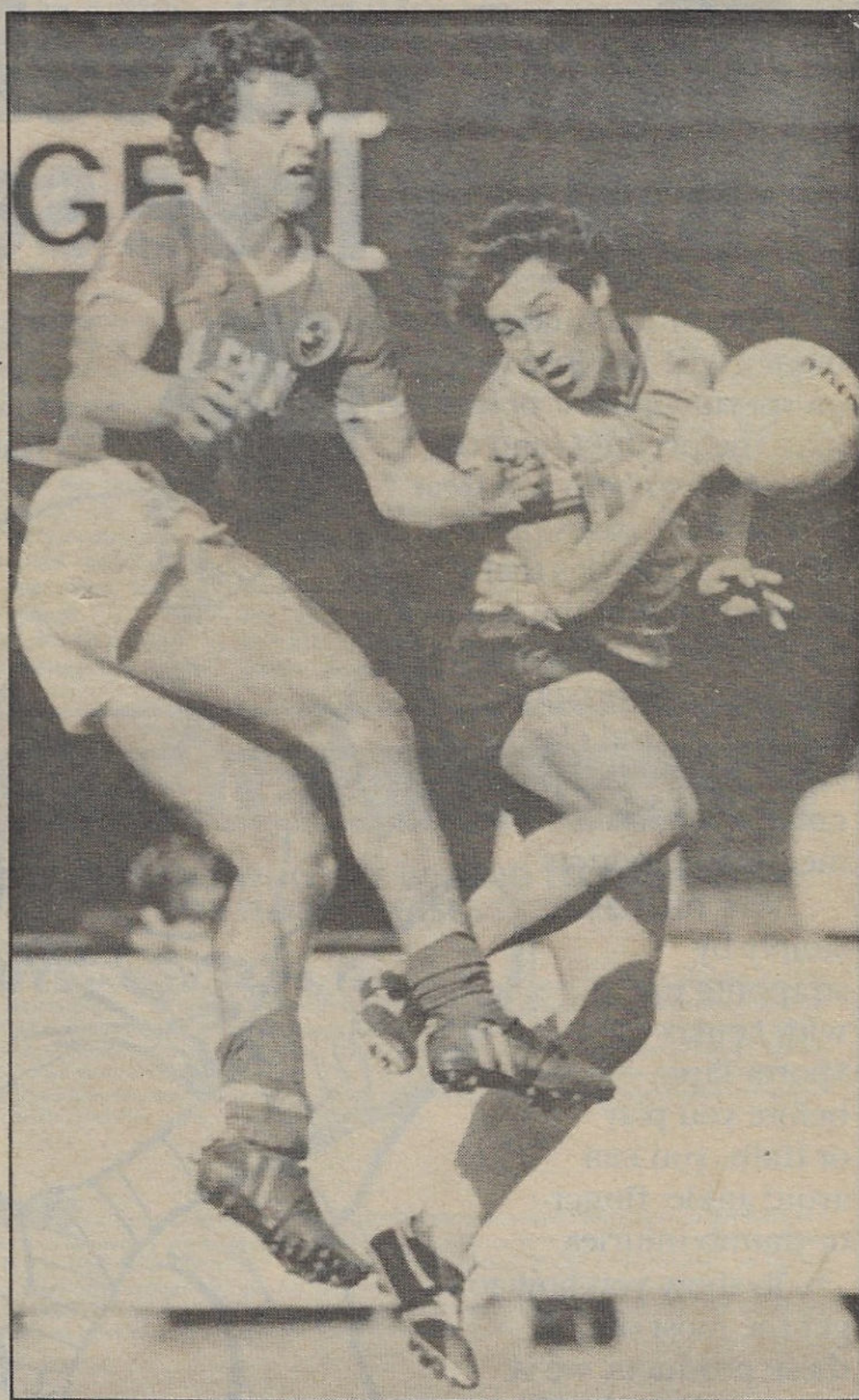
The game will be at St George Stadium — which should be of some help to Saints — but the way Olympic are firing at the moment, they should be good enough to beat the stuttering Saints.

So, if all games go according to form — alas they

rarely do — the teams in the relegation zone will go into the final challenge round with Blacktown on 28 points, Croatia on 26, St George 25 and Melita and Penrith in deep trouble with only 24 points.

It looks as if goals difference is going to be extremely important. Perhaps all-important.

So if statistics mean anything, Penrith or Melita will go through the trapdoor into the State League — with the odds slightly suggesting it will be Penrith.



□ ST GEORGE picked up two points with their 1-0 victory over Sydney City on Saturday. Pictured are Saints full-back Andrew Kockza (left) and Slickers striker Grant Lee in mid-air.

PHOTO: DAVID JELLINGS

IN THIS WEEK'S

24 PAGE

ASW

P3..... HENDO'S SMASH

MIKE'S FAREWELL P4

P11..... KOSSIE'S TON

SAINTS' VICTORY P15

P16 ROTHMANS MEDAL

PAOLO'S GOALS P23

EDITORIAL

IN times of crisis, there are always willing people who come forward with remedies for whatever problems face Soccer.

It is quite clear that the code in Australia now faces a real crisis, which is reflected in the poor attendances at matches.

We would all agree that there is no simple solution. But so long as the people running Soccer accept that there is a major problem and don their thinking caps to try to find a remedy, at least the first step to recovery will have been taken.

In editorials in AUSTRALIAN SOCCER WEEKLY, we have examined suggestions for a switch in seasons, with Soccer becoming a summer sport, as it is in the USA's National League.

It is possible such a major reorganisation would help bring more spectators back to Soccer. Possible, but most unlikely.

Could it be that the real solution is something much more obvious? Is the problem so obvious that it has never been considered?

We believe it is.

The reason the fans have turned their backs on Soccer could be simply that the sport has lost its attraction as a spectacle.

It used to be entertaining. Today, it is not.

Something has gone seriously wrong with the way this great game is being played ... and not just in this country.

It is a world-wide malady.

During the past 30 years, there have been two major changes in Soccer — and, between them, they have turned a magnificent spectacle into almost a non-event as entertainment.

The twin evils are:

1. Too much coaching which stifles flair and initiative among young players.
2. Too much emphasis on defensive tactics.

We are coming round to the belief

that, if Soccer in 1984 had the same entertainment value it had in 1954 or 1934, there would be no worries over falling attendances.

We may be accused of living in the past. Yet who would doubt that it was a glorious past as far as Soccer entertainment was concerned?

What coaching did the magnificent players of the vintage years get as youngsters? Virtually none.

They taught themselves by practicing their skills hour after hour, day after day, on any spare patch of grass, or on bitumen playgrounds at school — usually with an old tennis ball.

England's great stars learned their Soccer trade that way. There was no such thing as a coaching manual, no university lecturers drawing diagrams on blackboards to improve a youngster's Soccer skills.

Without the dubious benefits of coaching, England turned out forwards like Jimmy Hagan, Wilf Mannion, Len Shackleton, Tom Finney

and Stanley Matthews.

There is not one player in the world today of equal ability ... including Maradona and Platini.

They were all creators with a touch of magic. These days, the emphasis in most teams is on destroyers.

"Stop the opposition scoring goals," is the rallying cry. "Mark tightly, tackle hard, pack your defence, play only one or two men up front," these are the defensive tactics which have done so much to take the beauty and poetry out of a game called Soccer.

With so much stereotyped coaching and so much emphasis on defence, is it any wonder that the sport has lost its charm for the paying customers?

The situation is now so serious that, in the 1982 World Cup, only one team out of the 24 qualifiers consistently played crowd-pleasing football.

Sadly, Brazil, the genuine entertainers, did not win the Cup.

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STEWART STAYS

BY GREG RUSSELL

BRISBANE LIONS midfielder Russell Stewart, who was the centre of a last week's national selection bungle, has scrapped plans to trial with Nottingham Forest this off-season.

The chance of playing for Australia in the Merlion Cup plus the ever-increasing likelihood that Lions will make the National Conference top five helped sway the former Young Socceroo's decision not to go to Britain.

Stewart, who with his brother John is now on standby for the Merlion Cup squad, was to accompany brilliant Mount Gravatt goalkeeper Stuart Woodruffe to Nottingham. Woodruffe, a member of this year's Queensland squad, will still go ahead with the three-month trial. He will leave for England later this month.

The trial was organised by Queensland director of coaching Bruce Stowell, who has predicted a bright future for the young keeper.

Woodruffe is yet another former Mount Gravatt junior who has begun to break into the limelight. John and Russell



□ RUSSELL STEWART: not going.

Stewart played their junior Soccer at Dittmer Park, as did fellow National League

players John Kowtan (Brisbane City) and Peter McClurg (Lions).

AUSTRALIAN
SOCCER
WEEKLY

Thinking of advertising in ASW?
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Rockdale Ilinden Youth League

SELECTION TRIALS FOR 1985 SEASON

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L. Tracey - 727 9689

Coach staff:

Ilya Takacs, Ilinden's first grade coach

Paul Degney, Ilinden first grade player and former Australian representative

SELECTION PROCESS MUST BE IMPROVED



□ JOE SENKALSKI: wants to appear in World Cup Finals for Australia.

HENDERSON IN CAR SMASH

BY JOHN ECONOMOS

TONY HENDERSON, Marconi's crack international centre-back, was almost killed in a car smash last Sunday morning as he was driving to Sydney airport.

Henderson was on his way to the airport to join his team-mates for their flight to Brisbane for the Brisbane City - Marconi match when he was hit head-on by another car in the Sydney suburb of Lakemba.

In Tony's car was his attractive wife Liz, who suffered a possible whiplash injury to her neck and was rushed to Canterbury Hospital for a check-up.

After being kept under observation, Mrs Henderson was discharged on Sunday evening, but will be required to go back for further checks.

Henderson missed the flight to Brisbane as he had to wait for the police to arrive at the scene of the accident where both vehicles were extensively damaged.

Henderson was driving a Nissan 260 at the time and told us: "If I wasn't driving this big car, we would have been killed for sure. The full impact was taken by my motor. That's what saved us."

□ TONY HENDERSON (left) shadows Sydney City striker John Kosmina at Marconi Stadium. Henderson missed last Sunday's match in Brisbane as a result of his accident.



AUSTRALIA's Soccer administrators must take a hard look at our national selection process if they wish to guarantee the long-term success of the National League.

It has been said for a long time that players who parade their skills in Sydney and, to a lesser degree, Melbourne, have an infinitely better chance of gaining national selection.

Events of the past two weeks have done much to suggest that this impression carries considerable strength.

Unless the ASF can prove to all National League players that each has the means to be considered for national selection, then the code will have no chance of stemming the flow of talented players to Sydney and Melbourne clubs.

If the inadequacies of the selection system are allowed to work in favour of the Sydney and Melbourne clubs at the expense of Adelaide, Brisbane and the regional outfits, then the NSL might as well cease operation forthwith.

Attack

Queensland Soccer Federation president Ian Brusasco launched a scathing attack on the Socceroo selection process following last week's blunder over the Stewart brothers who play for Brisbane Lions.

Russell Stewart was named in an ASF release as a standby selection for the Merlion Cup squad, yet it was his brother John who received the letter advising him of selection.

To make things even more farcical, national coach Frank Arok and ASF secretary Brian Emery disagreed over which brother had been selected, to which Mr Brusasco replied:

"The national coach is always welcome in Queensland. It would be a perfect opportunity to meet our players. I will personally introduce some of them to him if he is unsure who they are."

The ASF resolved the issue by wisely naming both brothers.

That criticism might have been the end of the matter if it were not for a very poignant interview Channel 0-28 conducted with Newcastle Rosebud captain Joe Senkalski just before the NSL Cup clash with Melbourne Croatia.

Senkalski was quizzed at some length about his plans for next season and he made it quite clear that he was aiming for Socceroo selection. The Rosebud captain went on to say that to make the Socceroos, he would have to join a Sydney club.

Sacrifice

"If you want the eyes that really matter to be on you," he said, "you have to play in Sydney. I think I've had plenty of good games for Newcastle but it doesn't mean much if the people who count aren't seeing you."

Senkalski wasn't com-

Comment

BY NEIL JAMESON

plaining about his lot — he was merely stating what most players see as fact. It should be remembered that the Rosebud skipper has played in NSL ranks since the Philips League kicked off in 1977 and is one of the League's longest-serving players.

He had a season in Sydney with Olympic before Newcastle joined the League and for him to return to Sydney would involve considerable sacrifice. He has a steady school-teaching job in Newcastle and has just built a house in one of the more pleasant suburbs there.

Senkalski is only 26 but 1986 would almost certainly present his last chance of appearing in a World Cup final series and, for that reason, he would willingly parade his skills where they are most likely to be viewed.

The problem is not entirely Frank Arok's as it wasn't Les Scheinflug's when he had the national job. However, the ASF should be encouraging the national coaching staff to see many more regional games.

In short, it's an issue of policy and budgeting and



□ JOHN STEWART: (right): selection blunder.

if it is not enacted immediately the drain of star players will cripple Adelaide, Brisbane and the regions to such an extent that they will be condemned to the role of NSL also-rans.

The metropolitan media might help by being as even-handed as the need dictates. Newcastle Rosebud United

fans are still fuming over the fact that the club's winning of Australia's second most important domestic Soccer trophy was almost totally ignored by the Sydney media.

That could have been excused if Sydney papers were not big sellers in Newcastle, but that is not the case.

WANTED

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MENS — A choice of two end of season trip tournaments which are open to any standard of team as the events are designed as both a serious tournament but also an overseas holiday. The first is "THE SOUTH PACIFIC MENS AND WOMENS SOCCER CHALLENGE" set for the same week in October in Fiji. The second is "THE THIRD GARUDA CUP BALI SOCCER TOURNAMENT" set for the first two weeks of November 1985. Both tournament packages include a number of meals and are the perfect way to end a hard season.

WOMENS — The New Caledonia South Pacific Cup now in its 3rd year has been widened to take place in Fiji in 1985 then back to New Caledonia in 1986. The event now called "THE SOUTH PACIFIC WOMENS SOCCER CHALLENGE" takes place in Fiji in October. Club, Association or Invitational teams can enter and in 1985 the event is expected to feature teams from Australia, New Zealand, Fiji, New Caledonia and possibly America. Held during the same week as the mens event it will both be a serious tournament as well as an end of season holiday and as such is open to all standards of teams. A comprehensive package with a number of meals is now available.

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RAY'S NOT FORGOTTEN

BY PHIL MURPHY

RAY VLIETSTRA admitted he was surprised when recalled to international duty for Australia's defence of the Merlion Cup.

The Wollongong City stopper said he thought he had been forgotten.

"When your team is on the bottom of the League and struggling you tend to forget about playing for Australia," Vlietstra said.

"We have only won four games this year and that makes it hard for a defender to show up but I am really pleased to get another chance."

Vlietstra proved this just days after his selection when he had a brilliant game against St George with national coach Frank Arok looking on.

The big defender is certain to make the most of his recall and don't be surprised if he is a candidate for the World Cup squad in 1986.



RAY VLIETSTRA (right) covers Peter Sharne.



MIKE'S FITTING FAREWELL

WHAT a way to go out of professional Soccer.

A last minute goal to clinch promotion into the State League for Fairy Meadow.

There were just on 4,000 people in the Wollongong ground to see a deflected shot by our full-back, Tony Charnock, win the game for us and bury the hopes of Wollongong Macedonia for one more year.

The subsequent emotional scenes of the field among ecstatic Fairy Meadow players and supporters was balanced by the sad sight of seeing some 2,000 Macedonian

supporters wending their way dejectedly to the ground exists.

As Tony Charnock's shot ruffled the back of the net there was a feeling of triumph and elation.

But in the minute it took for referee Warne to end the game I could not help but be touched by the sad sight of the Macedonian supporters, heads down, already walking to the exists.

I had coached their team not so long ago and twice had experienced the same bitter feeling of defeat as

promotion was snatched from us.

There is no prize in Soccer as important as promotion from the second division to the first division.

It is this crucial last step on the ladder which can make a club.

Marconi, Sutherland, Manly, Rockdale in our time are some of the clubs who made the giant step up out of second division.

The subsequent drive, ambition and aspirations of these clubs would never have been engendered without this success.

In England, Sheffield Wednesday and Newcastle United had sought for more than a decade to get out of the lower division and did so this year.

longong Wolves to become the premier club in the region.

For myself, that was my last game in charge of a professional Soccer team.

It may seem terribly quaint and old fashioned that I should find breaking the sabbath day hard to do, but that is how it is.

BY MIKE JOHNSON

It is only about 25 years ago that most of the western world kept much of their sport and other such activity to weekdays out of a vague feeling of respect of God.

As this respect, or even belief has diminished, so have moral standards in and out of sport.

I am appalled by the increasing violence in our streets just as I am appalled by the violent behaviour among sporting spectators and players, which is increasing.

I am appalled by the lack of respect for authority, in our institutions, homes and once more on our sporting fields.

After our championship triumph, a young press photographer asked our captain Mick Richardson and me to pose for a photograph.

We did, both of us giving her a big smile, which was easy to do so soon after our success.

But that was not good enough for her.

She wanted us to pose with bent arms and clenched fists punching the air.

We refused and she was quite upset.

I find such histrionics and the uncontrolled rudeness and insults of the McEnroe's of the sporting world a late 20th century phenomenon which the world and sport could do without.

Infantile

Such behaviour is classed as "controversial" or "entertaining" when in fact it is simply infantile.

It is the type of immature, uncontrolled behaviour which we tolerate in young children, but should condemn in adults.

I have loved sport all my life, especially Soccer and Cricket.

I will continue to play both and shall coach my children in how to be proficient at it.

I hope they will help me to be a better father than I have been to date.

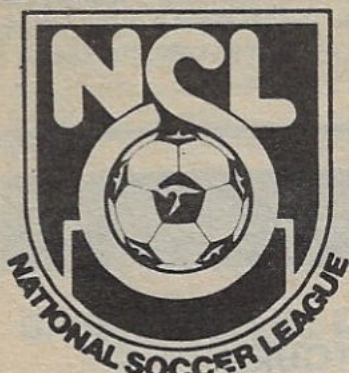
Advantage

It took Sutherland 50 years to throw off its second class status.

Since that time, it has hardly ever been out of the top four in State League.

It is now up to the Fairy Meadow administration to take advantage of their new-won status and build a solid part-time professional club to compete in State League.

If successful, this club could compete with Wol-



NATIONAL SOCCER LEAGUE MATCHES

FRIDAY SEPT 28

LEICHHARDT v WOLLONGONG CITY
St George Stadium 8pm

SATURDAY SEPT 29

BLACKTOWN CITY v PENRITH CITY
Gabbie Stadium 3pm

SUNDAY SEPT 30

SYDNEY CITY v PARRAMATTA MELITA
Sydney Athletic Field 3pm

SYDNEY CROATIA v MARCONI
King Tomislav Park 3pm

SYDNEY OLYMPIC v ST GEORGE
St George Stadium 3pm

BRISBANE LIONS v BRISBANE CITY

Richlands 3pm

SUNSHINE GEORGE CROSS v GREEN GULLY

Chaplin Reserve 3pm

MELB CROATIA v BRUNSWICK JUVENTUS

Olympic Park 3pm

PRESTON v FOOTSCRAY

Connor Reserve 3pm

SOUTH MELBOURNE v HEIDELBERG

Middle Park 3pm

WEST ADELAIDE v ADELAIDE CITY

Hindmarsh Stadium 2.30pm

**MONDAY OCT 1
NEWCASTLE ROSEBUD v CANBERRA ARROWS**

Adamstown Oval 2.30pm

APIA v WOLLONGONG CITY



FRIDAY NIGHT

**KICK-OFF MAIN GAME 8 PM
EARLY MATCH 6 PM**

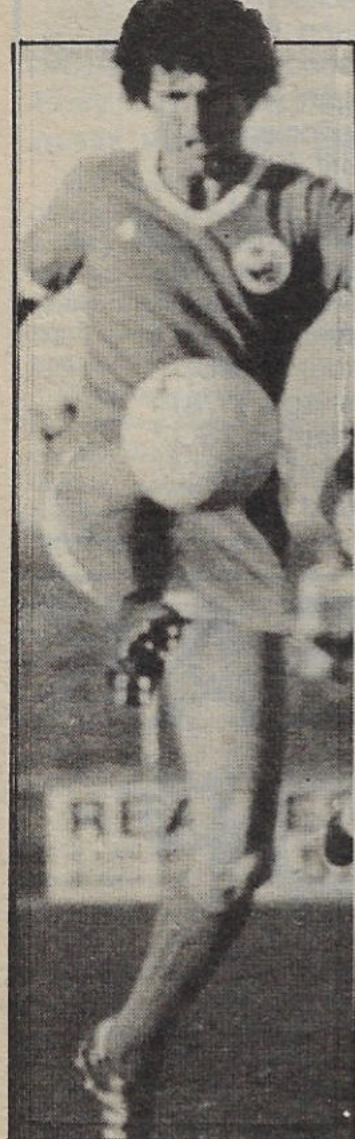
ST GEORGE STADIUM



TONY MORSELLO — APIA

WHY WAS ANDY GIVEN THE COLD SHOULDER?

THE Australian squad to defend the Merlion Cup next month has certainly raised a few eyebrows.



DAVID RATCLIFFE

People have been quick to criticise some of the selections. I cannot understand why Saints defender Andrew Koczka missed out.

I don't wish to enter a slanging match.

It's understandable that people might think I'm biased, but there's been no more consistent player at St George than Andy this year.

Tall and aggressive, Koczka has proved a personality among our supporters.

It is a difficult task for many players to change from an attacking role to a defensive position.

During the pre-season tournaments, Koczka played a majority of matches in the front line but, when we were hit by a spate of injuries, coach Frank Arok had no other choice than to try Koczka as a defender.

It has paid dividends.

With the serious leg injury to regular left-back Robbie O'Shea, Koczka slotted into the left-back position. And he has also been pushing forward and scoring goals.

No-one doubts his com-

mitment. As well as being strong in the air, he can be deadly in front of goal.

Injured team-mate David Ratcliffe holds him in the highest regard. He feels that Koczka should be the first player selected in the Australian Youth team to contest the 1985 Oceania World Youth Cup elimination series.

Last year Koczka was rewarded for his efforts by winning selection in the preliminary Australian Youth squad but missed selection for the finals in Mexico.

This is his first year in the top grade and I'm sure it's just the start of a prosperous future.



A SAD LOSS

THE retirement of fellow columnist Mike Johnson will certainly be felt by Soccer followers.

One can only admire the reasons behind his retirement. Understandably, it must have been a difficult decision for him to make after such a successful season with Fairy Meadow in the NSW State League.

Last year he decided to give up Soccer but this was only shortlived. With such a background in the round-ball code it came as no surprise to see him coach Wollongong team Fairy Meadow this year.

It's history now but Fairy Meadow went on to clinch the title in the last round and win promotion into the first division - a feat which probably wouldn't have happened without Johnson.

Fairy Meadow must now utilise the foundations that Johnson has laid and continue to seek success.

This year Rockdale Ilinden were promoted into the first division and they were very unlucky not to be promoted to the National League. Rockdale finished only a point behind winners Inter Monaro.

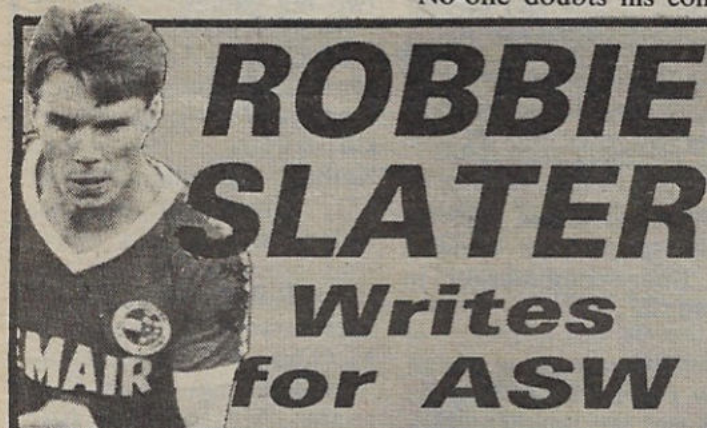
What never fails to amaze me with Soccer in Wollongong is the number of spectators second division State League teams Fairy Meadow and Wollongong Macedonia

attract.

Recently, both teams played before a crowd of more than 4,000.

Maybe if the two State League clubs and NSL team Wollongong City were to combine to form one strong club, as well as keeping their teams in the State League competition, the South Coast area could once again be a force in Australian Soccer.

ANDY KOCZKA strides clear of Blacktown defender Cliff Pointer on a forward run from his full-back position.



ROBBIE SLATER
Writes
for ASW

HAVE WHISTLE WILL TRAVEL!

BY TOM McKAIN

FIFA referee Donald Campbell has come to the rescue of his fellow SA referees — criticised by South Melbourne coach Len McKendry for the second time this year.

The first was after South lost to West Adelaide in August, and the second was when South won 3-2 against Adelaide City a fortnight ago.

"Last time we came here we lost and I complained about the referee," he said.

"Perhaps people will

take more notice now that I am criticising the referee after we have won."

Campbell said he could not comment on referees' performances, or decisions, even his own, but he said a lot of problems were caused because referees were confined to their own

States.

"I have said from the start we must handle far more games out of our own States," he said.

"People see you perhaps twice a season, and you see different players every week.

"We used to travel regularly but this was cut out to cut costs; clubs who complain were possibly the ones who wanted to save money.

"Coaches players and fans will always complain about referees and their decisions.

"We have learned to live with that, but so much of it could be avoided if the NSL budgeted to spread the referees around every week."

In his latest blast at the men in black, McKendry claimed that referee Tony Martell should never have given a penalty when City's



DON CAMPBELL

Steve Maxwell was allegedly upended in the box by Steve Blair.

And he also claimed that a goal by Charlie Villani to level the score at 2-2 was offside.

Green Gully's Bobby McLachlan blasted Gordon Nicholson's refereeing in Brisbane when his team lost 2-1 to Lions. It has to be admitted that in the early days of the national competition when Adelaide teams visited Queensland, SA coaches claimed that in the majority of games, they had to play the teams, plus the referees.

Perhaps with sponsorship money from West Nally, the league will be able to afford travelling "whistlers" next year.

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NATIONAL CONFERENCE

TEAM	AGGREGATE							HOME							AWAY						
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts	W	D	L	F	A	Pts		W	D	L	F	A	Pts	
SYD CITY	26	16	7	3	60	20	39	8	2	2	34	12	18		8	5	1	26	8	21	
OLYMPIC	26	15	7	4	58	25	37	8	3	2	34	14	19		7	4	2	24	11	18	
LEICHHARDT	26	12	7	7	41	30	31	7	1	4	19	14	15		5	6	3	22	16	16	
MARCONI	26	10	8	8	52	37	28	7	3	4	26	14	17		3	5	4	26	23	11	
BLACKTOWN	26	10	6	10	38	47	26	5	5	3	24	21	15		5	1	7	14	26	11	
CANBERRA	26	12	1	13	46	36	25	7	0	6	25	14	14		5	1	7	21	22	11	
ST GEORGE	26	8	9	9	37	37	25	5	6	3	23	17	16		3	3	6	14	20	9	
SYD CROATIA	26	7	11	8	29	36	25	2	5	5	11	18	9		5	6	3	18	18	16	
PARRA MELITA	26	8	8	10	23	30	24	4	3	7	12	17	11		4	5	3	11	13	13	
PENRITH	26	7	10	9	26	37	24	4	5	4	15	21	13		3	5	5	11	16	11	
NEWCASTLE	26	10	4	12	32	49	24	8	1	3	19	14	17		2	3	9	13	35	7	
W'GONG	26	4	4	18	19	57	12	3	1	9	11	24	7		1	3	9	8	33	5	

AUSTRALIAN CONFERENCE

STH MELB	26	16	4	6	43	20	36	7	4	2	21	6	18		9	0	4	22	14	18	
MELB CROATIA	26	13	7	6	38	27	33	8	4	2	21	11	20		5	3	4	17	16	13	
H'BERG	26	13	7	6	36	25	33	9	3	2	24	13	21		4	4	4	12	12	12	
BRUNSWICK	26	12	4	10	35	41	28	7	2	3	22	17	16		5	2	7	13	24	12	
BRIS LIONS	26	11	5	10	36	35	27	7	3	3	22	17	17		4	2	7	14	18	10	
PRESTON	26	10	5	11	41	33	25	6	3	4	29	14	15		4	2	7	12	19	10	
FOOTSCRAY	26	10	5	11	28	29	25	4	3	6	12	14	11		6	2	5	16	15	14	
GR GULLY	26	8	6	12	31	34	22	5	3	5	19	16	13		3	3	7	12	18	9	
AD CITY	26	8	5	13	28	33	21	5	3	5	19	16	13		3	2	8	9	17	8	
BRIS CITY	26	8	5	13	19	35	21	3	4	6	8	13	10		5	1	7	11	22	11	
WEST AD	26	7	5	14	38	48	19	6	2	6	27	19	14		1	3	8	11	29	5	
SUNSHINE	26	4	6	16	22	55	14	2	4	6	9	14	8		2	2	10	13	41	6	

RESULTS

- BRISBANE CITY 2 (Mengotti, Bromfield) d MARCONI 2 (Brown 2) at Spencer Park. CROWD: 675.
- CANBERRA 1 (Reis) HEIDELBERG 0 at Hawker Oval. CROWD: 1,000.
- SYDNEY CROATIA 1 (Vidaic) NEWCASTLE 1 (Owens) at King Tomislav Park. CROWD: 2,820.
- WOLLONGONG 1 (Kotamanidis) BLACKTOWN 2 (Sandy, O'Connor) at Wollongong Showground. CROWD: 524.
- FOOTSCRAY 0 ADELAIDE CITY 0 at Schintler Reserve. CROWD: 1,000.
- GREEN GULLY 0 MELBOURNE CROATIA 1 (Biskic) at Green Gully Reserve. CROWD: 2,000.
- WEST ADELAIDE 0 PRESTON 1 (Dunn) at Hindmarsh Stadium. CROWD: 1,300.
- SYDNEY CITY 0 ST GEORGE 1 (Marton) at Sydney Athletic Field.
- PENRITH 0 LEICHHARDT 3 (Morsello, Gray, Genovese) at Cook Park. CROWD: 878.
- SYDNEY OLYMPIC 3 (Theodorakopoulos 2, Raskopoulos) PARRAMATTA MELITA 0 at St George Stadium. CROWD: 3,426.
- SOUTH MELBOURNE 0 BRISBANE LIONS 0 at Middle Park. CROWD: 2,500.
- BRUNSWICK 4 (Dowie, Sweeney, Cullen, Ward) SUNSHINE 2 (Faulkner, Latif) at Olympic Park. CROWD: 2,000.

TOP SCORERS

- 20 — Kosmina (SC)
- 17 — D. Brown (SM)
- 13 — Katholos (SC)
- 11 — Arnold (S. Cr)
- 10 — Bradley (L)
- 9 — Cairney (BL)
- 8 — Farina (CA)
- 7 — Reis (CA)
- 6 — Kotamanidis (W)
- 5 — Jankovics (M)
- 4 — Fletcher (SC)
- 3 — Bryant (CA)
- 2 — Brogan (MC)
- 1 — Panagis (WA)
- 1 — Kalantzis (SO)
- 1 — Larkin (BD)
- 1 — Ward (BJ)

THEY DON'T PLAY LIKE AMATEURS

BY KEITH GILMOUR

IT certainly was not an amateurish performance from NSL Cup winners Newcastle Rosebud when they deservedly pulled off a 1-1 draw with Sydney Croatia at King Tomislav Park.

Considering that almost all the players are turning out for what cash the Supporters' Club can drum up for them, they put on quite a professional display.

The result revolved around control of the direct downfield breeze. Newcastle held sway in the first half and Croatia put them under all sorts of pressure in the second.

The pick of the players were Newcastle's strapping teenage defender Neil Owens and Croatia's crafty winger Zeljko Jurin.

On the day — and on the other days I have seen him — Owens, 18, should be a selection by World Youth team coach Jim Shoulder.

He can do it all on the park under top pressure, and on this occasion he scored his first NSL goal to boot.

David Jones had a rebound off the wall saved by Greg Woodhouse at full stretch. Jones took the corner, which skidded high off the bumpy surface and Owens

smashed it home off his head.

Croatia were in a pickle but skipper Bruno Vidaic rescued them in circumstances under which Newcastle vehemently protested for an offside. Referee Doug Rennie, however, had other ideas.

Brett Woods transferred from the right wing following a Dean Milosevic foul. Savor's header came off the defence and big Bruno headed over the advancing Clint Gosling.

Jurin, Savor, Arnold and Borges had their chances in the second half, and Brandt for Newcastle, but Newcastle's valiant defence proved the salient factor as they laboured for their draw.

SYDNEY CROATIA: Woodhouse, Woods, Tomicic, Basic (Rezo 45), Sterrey, Vidaic, Jurin, Savor, Arnold, Clinch (Boden 72), Borges.

NEWCASTLE: Gosling, Maier, Boogaard, Owens, Thompson, Kerby, Senkalski, Brandt, Milosevic, Jones, Allen. REFEREE: D. Rennie CROWD: 2,820.



BRUNO VIDAIC in action against Kerry Caban.

OLYMPIC BREAK INTO GALLOP

BY TOM ANDERSON

SYDNEY OLYMPIC's long march in quest of top place in the National League has turned into an all-out gallop.

With two games remaining, Olympic are now only two points behind a Slickers outfit that has suddenly developed a bout of the hiccups.

On Sunday at St George Stadium, Olympic raced further towards the winning post by downing a very disappointing Parramatta Melita 3-0.

Melita were never in the race and handed Olympic the game from the opening whistle by adopting what only can be described as amazing tactics which the players didn't seem to comprehend.

This negative stuff allowed Olympic to com-

pletely dominate the action and it came as no surprise when Nick Theodorakopoulos opened the scoring with a brilliant effort in the 21st minute.

Theodorakopoulos added his second in the 89th minute and Peter Raskopoulos helped himself to one in the 75th minute.

The scoreline could and should have been doubled by Olympic, had some of their players retained their self-discipline and played for the team instead of themselves.

Instead they turned on the individual stuff and went glory hunting and re-

duced Olympic from an exciting lethal combination to a team of bits and pieces.

This malaise was started after the opening goal and reached epidemic proportions by the end of the game.

When Olympic play together as a team there is no finer combination in Australia.

But when one or two of their players try to hog the ball and the limelight they become "just another team."

No doubt some harsh talking by coach Manfred Schaefer this week will pull

some of his self-confessed stars into line for the last two big games.

SYDNEY OLYMPIC: Meier; Rogers, Dakos, Coady, Jennings; Raskopoulos, Patikas, Katholos; Patalis (Phillips 65), Theodorakopoulos, Kalantzis.

PARRA MELITA: McPherson; McAusland, McGinn, Wilson, Tredinick; Jamieson, Allan, Farugia, McDonald (Andronicopoulos 36); Laing, De-manuele (McKie 70).

REFEREE: P. Rampley. CROWD: 3,426.

BROWN GETS A 'HANDY' GOAL

BY GREG RUSSELL

BRISBANE CITY won their first NSL point since the departure of coach Joe Gilroy three weeks ago with a 2-2 draw against Marconi at Spencer Park.

But the Brisbane side, now under the guidance of captain Frank Pimblett, were both lucky and unlucky to finish with a point.

The City players felt wrongly done by when a goal by Rod Brown in the 73rd minute was allowed by referee Bill Monteverde.

It seemed that Brown, who had scored 12 minutes earlier, had missed his far-post header and had driven the ball into the net with his arm.

That was also the opinion of Brisbane's goalkeeper Kim Wishart, who protested bitterly to the

linesman who seemingly had a clear view of the incident.

But if Brisbane were unlucky then, they had an uncharacteristic error of judgment by Marconi's keeper Bruce James to thank for their first goal which sparked a strong comeback.

James ran out of his area to meet a through-ball kicked by Brisbane's Frank Mengotti from the halfway line.

But on realising Brisbane striker Ken Swan had no chance of reaching the pass first, James turned

back and let the ball roll past him so he could pick it up once it entered the penalty area.

But he clearly misjudged the pace of Mengotti's pass as the ball raced away and into the net.

The good fortune inspired Brisbane City who stormed the Marconi goal in the dying minutes.

But there were no doubts about the equaliser. From a free-kick 30 metres out, the ball was set for Gary Bromfield, who drove his shot high into the left hand corner of the goal.

The Sydney side also

lost youngster Marti Driene with a leg injury after 32 minutes. But substitute Rene Licata gave the team width which had been lacking early in the match.

BRISBANE CITY: Wishart, Fabrizio, Liddel, Milovanovic, Bromfield, Swan, Pimblett, Hamilton, Scriggins, Chapma (Kowtan 78), Mengotti.

MARCONI: James; Carter, Spanos, Caldera, Driene (Licata 32), Cabone, McCulloch, Maso, Sharne, Lowe, Brown.

REFEREE: B. Monteverde. CROWD: 764.



ROD BROWN: double

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SAINTS TOSS SYDNEY CITY

BY JOHN ECONOMOS

ST GEORGE, threatened by relegation, caused the shock of the season when they defeated League leaders Sydney City 1-0 at the Athletic Field to grab their most valuable points of the year.

The Saints had a sense of urgency about their play as they went about hustling and bustling Sydney City, rarely allowing the home team space or time to settle and build up moves.

St George were fighting for survival in the NSL but, on this display of fight and vigour, could easily beat relegation over the next three weeks.

Quick shut-downs on Sydney City players was the order of the day and the O'Shea brothers, Mike and John, who were the "spine" of the Saints' defence, reigned supreme in this department.

Mike O'Shea at centre-back excelled with tight marking of Sydney City's Australian captain John Kosmina, whilst brother John, just back from a knee operation and filling in at sweeper for the injured David Ratcliffe, was magnificent in clean-up work at the back.

Sydney City's dynamic striker Grant Lee threatened in the 28th minute with a vicious close-range angled shot but World Cup goalkeeper Terry Greedy magnificently saved with a flick for a corner.

The rest of the match saw the teams battle for supremacy in the midfield, as Sydney City, severely handicapped by the suspension of powerhouse Murray Barnes, battled gamely through Joe Watson, Paul Kay and Peter Falconer.

St George almost broke the deadlock in the 61st minute when their ever-green striker Dez Marton cracked a 20 metre free-kick over the top of the wall which whistled past Tony Pezzano's right post.

Seven minutes later, Saints hit the target. A free-kick from Pedro Ricoy into the goalmouth saw a mad scramble for the ball.

Mike O'Shea headed goalwards, the ball came off a Sydney City defender for Dez Marton to stab it into the net from five

metres.

But just two minutes after Marton's heroic achievement, his role turned from hero to villain as he received a red card from referee Gary Power for allegedly going "over the top" on Alex Robertson.

With only two minutes left, and the points looking safe in the St George bag, Lee struck a vicious first-time shot that crashed onto Saints post.

Besides the O'Shea brothers, left-back Andrew Koczka and Robbie Slater looked hungry with high work-rates, especially off the ball, whilst Sydney City was best served by Lee and Graeme Fletcher.

A disappointed Slickers coach, Eddie Thomson, stated after the match: "We were never allowed any time to build up, especially as the referee must have stopped play at least

40 or 50 times."

Angry Sydney City captain Kosmina, booked for a foul on goalkeeper Greedy, asked: "How could I get booked for a foul when I won the ball in the air from a cross?"

SYDNEY CITY: Pezzano; de Marigny, Gomez, Robertson, K.Falconer; Watson, Kay, P.Falconer; Lee, Kosmina, Fletcher.
ST GEORGE: Greedy; Skeen, M.O'Shea,



□ **SOCCER SCUFFLE** at the Athletic Field between protagonists Dez Marton (obscured) and Alex Robertson (No 3).

REFEREE: G. Power.
CROWD: 819.

BRADLEY BOUNCES BACK TO FORM

BY BRAD EARL

THE devastating creative ability of John Bradley was never more evident than in Leichhardt's 3-0 victory over Penrith City at Cook Park.

Bradley, who has gone through an unusually quiet patch recently, troubled Penrith left-back Mickey Cross in the early stages of the match.

But it wasn't until the last 22 minutes that Bradley cut loose — providing the "assist" for all three goals.

First, he pushed the ball through for Tony Morsello to release a low shot that went inside Mike Gibson's far post.

Ian Gray's 77th minute goal was a similar shot, this time going in off the post.

Bradley had been hemmed in on the sideline, but forced his way inside, drawing three Penrith defenders. That left an open passage for Gray and Bradley set him up with a nice pass.

The third goal six minutes later was a powerful header by sub Tony Genovese after Bradley crossed the ball.

Leichhardt had picked up their performance in the second half after looking shaky in defence in the first 45 minutes.

Penrith should have taken

the lead in the 26th minute when Jeff Ainsworth hit the crossbar from right in front with Leichhardt goalie Bobby Parks beaten.

Ainsworth played a much more dominating role in the middle of the park and joined the attack again in the 64th minute with a well-struck shot that Parks brilliantly punched over the top.

Penrith coach Willie Wallace again criticised the commitment of some players, saying the difference between the sides was that "Leichhardt showed fight in all departments."

One player Wallace couldn't fault for commitment was sweeper Paul Daley, who effectively halted several Leichhardt attacks, including two crucial tackles on Kerry Caban and Bradley.

PENRITH: Gibson; Brogan, Cross, Daley, Campbell; Wotherspoon, Ainsworth, Hale, Jackson, Cotton (Easthorpe 77), Hunter (Nix 77).

LEICHHARDT: Parks;

Bozanic, Brown, Bertogna, Ziras, Gray, Butler, Tredinick; Bradley, Caban

(Genovese 59), Morsello.
REFEREE: T. Davies.
CROWD: 878.



□ **TONY GENOVESE:** third goal.

CASEY WAS NOT HAPPY WITH WIN

BY PHIL MURPHY

BLACKTOWN CITY coach Casey De Bruin said he was far from happy with his team's second half performance after they beat Wollongong 2-1 at Wollongong Showground.

De Bruin said he expected his players to give more effort over the full 90 minutes for their vital game against Penrith next weekend.

"We led 2-0 and should have gone on with the job but allowed Wollongong to come back into the game," De Bruin said.

Blacktown certainly didn't look like playoff material after half-time and Wollongong could have easily salvaged a point.

Ray Vlietstra had a powerful header cleared off the line by Rod Skellern and minutes later, the same player sent a 25 metre shot just over the Blacktown crossbar.

Blacktown went ahead after 25 minutes when Adam Sandy headed home a free-kick from Gary Byrne.

Thirteen minutes later, Phil O'Connor scored direct from a corner on the right and it looked as though Blacktown were headed for a big score.

Peter Kotamanidis grabbed a goal for the home team 13 minutes from the end but they didn't have the penetration up front to get level.

Sandy was always a menace to the Wollongong defence while Cliff Pointer and Chris Dunleavy were dominant at the back and John Larkin impressed when he came on as a replacement.

For Wollongong, Jamie Dummett tried hard at sweeper considering he has had so little NSL experience, and Vlietstra looked sound.

WOLLONGONG: Vardareff, Green, Fleming, Vlietstra, Dummett, Willis, Condron (Nees 51), Kerr (Baker 75), Beggs, Bundalo, Kotamanidis.

BLACKTOWN: Hoare, Wheatley (Larkin 45), Skellern, Dunleavy, Pointer, Selva, Quarmby, Byrne, Sandy, McLaughlin, O'Connor.

REFEREE: G. Davies.
CROWD: 524.

CLASH OF TWO CITIES

THIS SATURDAY ★★★★★★★★★★★★★★
BLACKTOWN
v PENRITH

GABBIE STADIUM

Kick-off 3 pm
Youth game 12.45 pm



ROUND UP

STEWART BOYS SHINE

BY CON NIKOLOPOULOS

SOUTH MELBOURNE had a lucky escape in their even tussle with lionhearted Brisbane Lions at Middle Park.

The title contenders dropped a point from their 0-0 draw.

Lions travelled to Melbourne with a set plan to upset the National Conference leaders and they did it in style.

The well-drilled and well-disciplined Lions fully exploited the weaknesses of their opposition, particularly in the midfield, and created numerous scoring opportunities which should have given them full points.

Jim McDonagh, Clark Anderson and Calvin Daunt played havoc upfield and tore gaps in South's shaky defence throughout the game.

In fact, it was McDonagh who had the best scoring opportunities in the game and had every reason to feel disappointed with himself for failing to score.

Lions also had brilliant performers in midfield, with the Stewarts, John and Russell, and the dynamic

Ray Junna showing out.

The Stewarts displayed flair and accurate ball distribution and Junna showed tremendous fighting spirit and aggressiveness.

Alan Hunter stood majestic in the defence and managed to keep South Melbourne spearhead Charlie Egan under control.

In contrast, South Melbourne could only count on the performance of their captain John Yzendoorn, centre half Steve Blair and forward Charlie Egan. The rest performed below average.

Souths are still three points ahead of Melbourne Croatia and Heidelberg United.

They could wrap up the premiership against Heidelberg on Sunday.

SOUTH MELBOURNE: Laumets, Russell, Davidson, Blair, Yzendoorn, Kanesoulis, Postecoglou, Crino, Egan, Brown, Murphy.

BRISBANE LIONS: Farrow, Jackson, Vasquez, Hunter, Niven, R. Stewart, J. Stewart, Anderson, McDonagh, Junna, Daunt.

REFEREE: D. Voutsinas.

CROWD: 2,500.

DUNN DUMPS HIS MATES!

BY TOM McKAIN

BIG Robbie Dunn dumped his old West Adelaide team-mates with the only goal of the match when Preston won at Hindmarsh Stadium to keep its top five hopes alive.

The centre-back was there in the 20th minute when the ball came over from a free-kick.

It eluded the high jumpers and came off a defender on the ground to Dunn who drove the ball from

close in and keeper Gary Sproul had no chance.

West had their chances but Preston looked the classier side.

While they had stars in Gary Cole and Zarko Odzakovic on the bench, West were minus Tim Brown, Chris Manou and Brenton Hiern — all suspended — and Steve Atsalas, George Konstandopoulos and John Papazoglou out injured.

The nearest West came to scoring was a great side-footed effort from striker John Kritikos, who tore down the middle of the park to accept a high ball in the first half, only to see it go over Rick Wilson's bar.

Steve Baker, in from the reserves for Hiern, played well as a twin centre-back and just missed from a Neil McGachey cross and then saw a shot fade at the last second to deny West an equaliser.

While Dunn starred for Preston, another former West player, winger Graham Heys, had a quiet game and was taken off for Odzakovic during the second half.

Cole went on for Claude Lucchesi with 11 minutes to go and but for Graham Honeyman and Baker, could have put Preston up



□ **ROBBIE DUNN**

another goal.

George Campbell, Preston's other winger, also looked good, as did Gordon Flavell and import Sean Lane.

But in the second half when West exerted pressure, it was obvious Preston were going to be content with that one-goal margin and they concentrated on getting plenty of men behind the ball.

WEST ADELAIDE: Sproul, McGregor, Mousoulis, McGachey, Honeyman, Baker, Panagis (Totsikas 75), Papadopoulos, Stamatopoulos (Calandaris 70), Kritikos, Malavazos.

PRESTON: Wilson, Opasinis, McMillan, Dunn, Ilioski, Dobson, Heys (Odzakovic 70), Flavell, Campbell, Lane, Lucchesi (Cole 79).

REFEREE: J. Rossis.

CROWD: 1,526.



□ **GEORGE CAMPBELL**

CANNELL CATCHES AROK'S EYE

BY DAVID BECK

MELBOURNE CROATIA recorded a slender 1-0 win over Green Gully to remain in the race for the championship title.

A goal by Josip Biskic after 22 minutes gave Croatia the two points over an aggressive Green Gully which deserved at least one point for their inspiring second half performance.

Both teams performed under the watchful eye of national coach Frank Arok who travelled to Melbourne to access the form of Melbourne Croatia players, goalkeeper Yakka Banovic, defenders Tony Curcio and Peter Lewis, midfielder Jim Campbell and forward Tommy Cumming and Green Gully's hard-working midfielder Paul Wade.

But it was Gully's centre half Stuart Cannell who attracted the attention of Arok. He impressed with his solid tackles and outstanding ability in the air.

Croatia dominated the first half and seemed certain winners as Gully did not seriously threaten Banovic's goal.

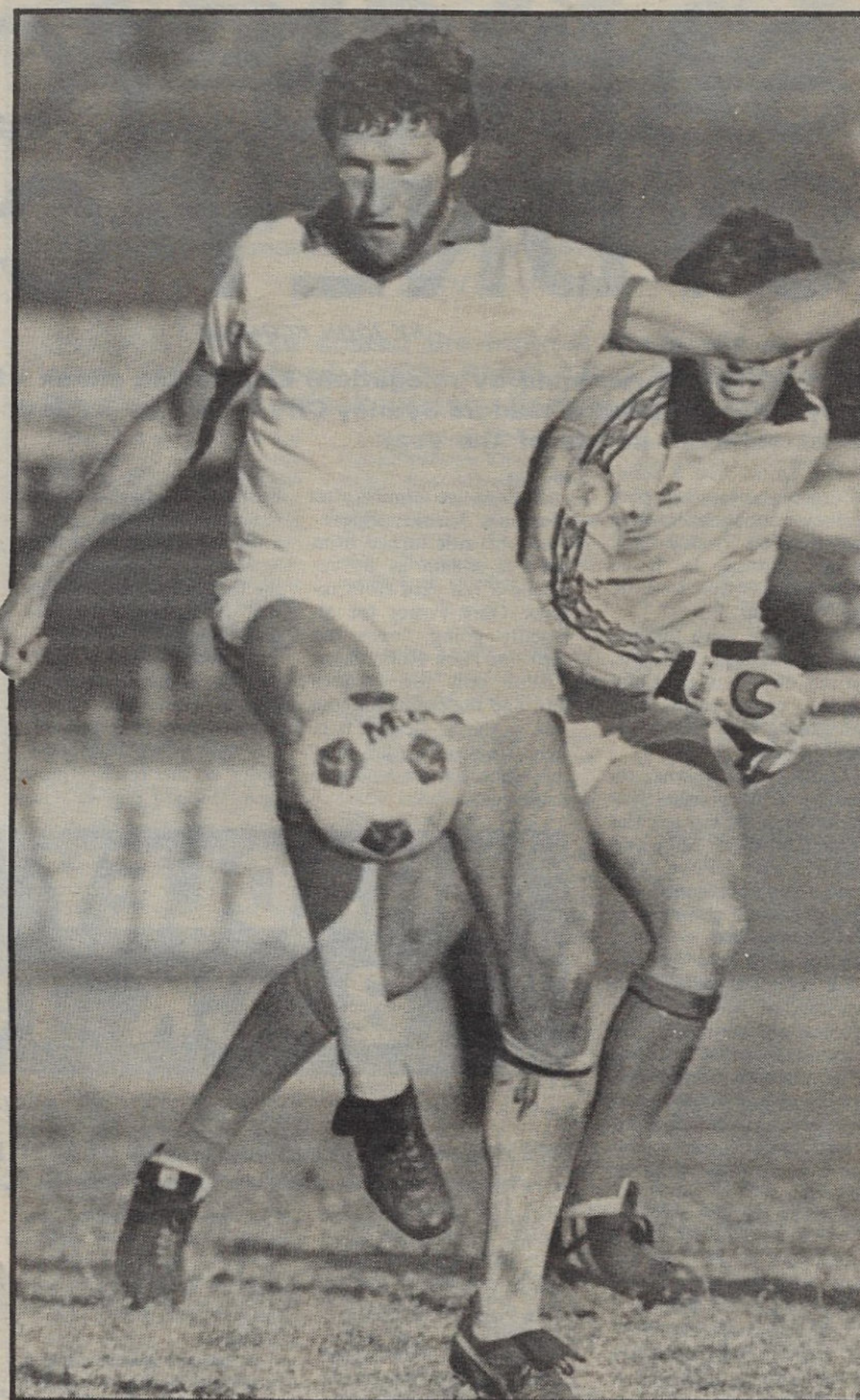
The situation changed in the second half during which Green Gully lifted their performance and mounted a series of attacks that could have produced the equaliser had their forwards been a bit more patient with their finishing.

GREEN GULLY: Denys, Hogben, Smart, Cannell, McLelland, McGuinness, Wade, Smallman (Mancinelli 62), Williams, Carter, Lewis.

MELB CROATIA: Banovic, Lewis, Hannah, Parton, Curcio, Gojevic, Campbell, Antolovic, Biskic (Adams 83), Cumming, Markovic (Deankovic 72).

REFEREE: S. Mellings.

CROWD: 3,500.



□ **CALVIN DAUNT:** created havoc.

SUNSHINE LEFT GROGGY AGAIN

BRUNSWICK JUVENTUS did it in style and hammered the National Conference punching bag Sunshine George Cross 4-2 at Olympic Park.

A tremendous display by dynamo winger Robert Cullen inspired Juventus to a brilliant performance that helped them to consolidate their position in the top five.

John Dowie scored after 45 seconds and crashed the hopes of George Cross for a respectable result.

Joe Sweeney scored the second goal after eight minutes, giving an early indication of the outcome of the bout.

Man of the match Cullen added the third goal five minutes before half time.

BY HARRY HALL

Sunshine George Cross managed to pull one back in the 42nd minute through Jeff Faulkner.

Georgie scored a second goal two minutes into the second half through Ossie Latif from the penalty spot and threatened with the equaliser. Their hopes, however, were dashed in the 78th minute when Gary Ward netted the fourth goal for Brunswick Juventus.

JUVENTUS: Martin, Geremia, Campbell, Drinozsky, Dowie, Rogers, Cullen, Miranda, Sweeney, Ward, Lloyd.

GEORGE CROSS: Tom

kinson, Bennett, Taylor, O'Reilly, Jovanovic, Scerri, Bain, Pit, Faulkner, McLa-

ren, Latif.

REFEREE: J. Fearn.

CROWD: 2,000.

TERRIBLE BORE

FOOTSCRAY and Adelaide City played a dull 0-0 draw and bored the fans who braved the adverse weather conditions.

Neither side showed initiative throughout the game and wasted their energy at Schintler Reserve.

Footscray attributed their failure to produce good Soccer by the absence of two of their key players, Kyriakouleas and Gary McDowell.

Kyriakouleas was serving a week's suspension and McDowell has been sidelined through injury.

Adelaide City made no excuses for a below average performance and justified their low placing on the championship table.

Footscray came close to scoring in the 40th minute when midfielder Vlatko Belic scraped the crossbar with a shot.

And City had their best chance seconds after the restart when Steve Gatenby connected with a cross by Paul Shillabeer and headed the ball, but Boland denied City the lead.

FOOTSCRAY: Boland, Hazabent, Tansey, Karic, Tutill, Belic, Caban, Carroll, Paton (Fernandez 63), O'Donnell, Lujic.

ADELAIDE CITY: McNally, Shillabeer, Nyskohus, Cere, Flounders, Melta, Tobin, Villani, Mullen, Gatenby, Rankin.

REFEREE: S. Zoumas.

CROWD: 1,000.

TRAVELLING ISN'T A DRAG FOR JEAN PAUL

BY ANDREW PASCHALIDIS

TRAVELLING more than 700 kilometres a week to play in the National League would be a burden for many players — but not Sydney City's Jean Paul de Marigny.

One of the success stories in Sydney City's quest for championship honours, De Marigny lives in Canberra during the week and travels to Sydney on Fridays.

Sydney City and assistant National coach Eddie Thomson is very understanding over de Marigny's plight.

"Jean Paul is completing his education in Canberra this year and I must commend him for that," he said.

"He trains at the Sport Institute and if needed, doesn't hesitate to come to Sydney earlier in the week."

What's even more surprising is that de Marigny lives with team-mate Jim Cant in the national capital.

With all that travelling, both would probably be able to drive from Canberra to Sydney with their eyes closed!

Well into his fourth season with the Slickers, de Marigny feels it was worth

waiting for first team selection.

"It's been like an apprenticeship," he said.

"You learn so much here. The players are great and the coaching staff is tremendous."

Ironically, De Marigny started playing at a representative level with Leichhardt — the club that has beaten the Slickers twice this year.

The young Mauritius-born youngster, moved to the Slickers on the recommendation of ex-secretary Peter Russell. He hasn't looked back since.

In 1982 he stayed at the Institute of Sport in Canberra along with Roy Jones, Frank Farina, Tony Franken (Canberra), Chris Hummel (Parramatta-Melita), Ray Junna (Brisbane Lions), Rod Brown (Marconi), Luciano Fabrizio (Brisbane City) and Michael McLaughlin (Blacktown City).

During his stint at the Institute, De Marigny rever-

ted to a defensive position after playing in the midfield during his younger years.

De Marigny was almost lost to Australian Soccer in 1982. Along with Sydney Olympic midfielder Jim Patikas, he trialled with well-known Scottish club Aberdeen.



□ **EDDIE THOMSON**

"I had a three-month contract and was playing in the reserve team," he said.

"I started getting homesick and the weather was terrible. I returned last year on a monthly contract."

"Who knows, I might go back again," de Marigny added.

This year Jean Paul was promoted to the first XI and

has looked comfortable in the left-back position.

Coach Eddie Thomson has been pleased with his adjustment to first team football.

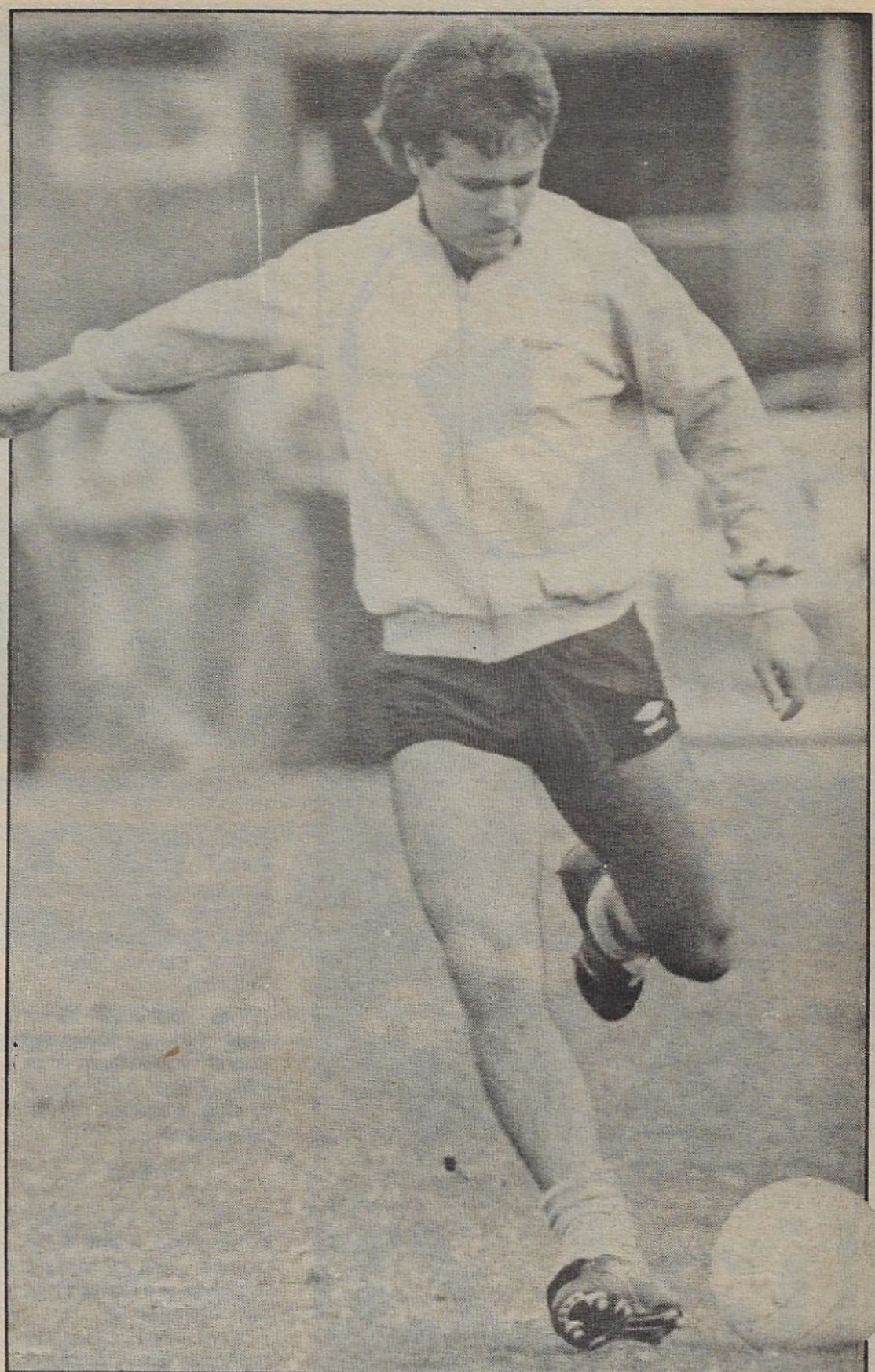
"Jean Paul slotted into the defence with ease earlier this year."

"During recent weeks he has shown slight signs of panic but I'm sure, with time, he'll develop into a top-class player," Thomson added.

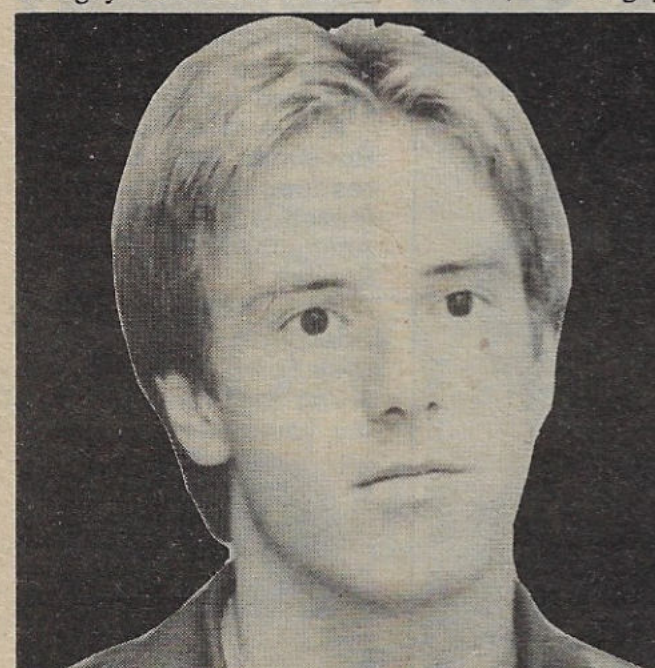
Although de Marigny has been playing in defence, Thomson is grooming the youngster for a midfield position.

"I'm sure Jean Paul would be better suited in the midfield — preferably on the left side. A left-footed player is a bonus in any team," he said.

Jean Paul de Marigny, 20, has made many sacrifices to win a regular first-team spot at Sydney City this year. That's understandable, because there are no better teams around than the Slickers.



□ **JEAN PAUL DE MARIGNY:** has waited four years to become a first team regular with Sydney City. Now he's made it.



SOCCEROO SELECTION IS DREAM COME TRUE FOR ROB

NOT many sportspeople get the chance to play for their country against top overseas opposition at 17 years of age.

But a number of teenage footballers will play for Australia in the Merlion Cup tournament in Singapore next month.

Like most of the youngsters selected by Australian Youth coach Jimmy Shoulder, Robert Hooker really doesn't know what to expect in Singapore.

The squad consists of several players who will represent Australia in the

1985 World Youth Championship, and the decision to test them at the Singapore tournament has been criticised as a "lambs to the slaughter" situation.

Key tip

Yet Shoulder has faith in the youngsters to be able to match their far more experienced opponents.

Hooker is one player whom he tips to be a key member of the next Young Socceroo squad.

The right-back has been under Shoulder's direction at the Australian Institute of Sport this year on loan from Sydney City.

BY BRAD EARL

"Eddie Thomson asked me to take him," Shoulder said.

"Jean-Paul de Marigny was here a couple of years ago and Thomson sees the value of young lads coming to the Institute."

Hooker played in Sydney City's youth team in 1983 and even impressed Slickers NSL stars with his potential.

But Shoulder has had to make Hooker more aggressive in recent months.

He explained: "Robert used to be a very polite young man on the field. This was evident on our European tour in May."

"However, Robert has been one of the ones who've responded very well, and he has lifted his game to what is required at international standard."

Shoulder impressed on the defender the need to use his body more, a side of coaching often neglected at junior level in Australia.

Hooker agrees that the change in his approach to the game has improved his play.

"Since I've started playing a bit more aggressively, everything else has come with it, including my selection for the Merlion Cup," he said.

In-form

And according to Shoulder, Hooker has been one of the in-form players with the Institute team in the last six weeks.

Two years ago Robert Hooker was New South Wales Under 15 captain — and he was a dedicated youngster keen to eventually make it to the top in Australian Soccer.

He is a product of the Ku-ring-gai district like Robert Wheatley, who was Australia's right-back in the 1981 WYC finals.

Now Hooker, who hopes to start teachers' college in 1985 after completing Year 12 this year, is on the threshold of a successful Soccer career.

When he walks out in front of 40,000-plus crowds in Singapore next month in the Green and Gold shirt, it will be like a dream come true — as it will for all the young players selected for the Merlion Cup defence.

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CHIT HAT



□ DENNIS COLUSSO

AT least one Wollongong City player is keen to sign with Fairy Meadow now the Illawarra club have won their way into the State League.

There is even a chance one former "Wolf" could be in line for the player-coach position next season. Fairy Meadow have lost Mike Johnson, who has retired, and will welcome applications from anyone interested.

With the powerful Fraternity Club likely to give Fairy Meadow improved backing in 1985, this could be a popular position.

CANBERRA ARROWS coach Doug Collins, looking back on a season of frustration, says: "We've lost 10 matches by one goal. Imagine how Arrows would be placed if all those points had been saved."

FORMER National League Player of the Year Jim Hermiston cherished his last match of the 1984 season. A veteran of countless matches in Scotland and Australia, Hermiston was joined by his son James in North Star's line-up in the Queensland Premier League clash against Mount Gravatt at O'Callaghan Park.

"That's the first time James and I have played together in a match. That was magic," Hermiston said.

Although nearly 38, Hermiston has not ruled out playing again next season. But studies and work commitments with the Queensland police could prove a deciding factor.

James, 16, already has begun to stake his claim to his own Soccer identity with a place in this year's Queensland Under 16 squad.



□ FRANK PIMBLETT (right) in a ballet-style challenge with Sydney Olympic's Mark Koussas.

ONE player who has hardly had a run in the first team at Penrith City is former Marconi and 1981 Australian Youth squad player, Dennis Colusso.

The midfielder spent most of the season in the Penrith youth team after joining the club for a \$2,000 transfer fee in pre-season.

DATES for the inter-conference grand final home and away matches are October 24 and October 28.

National League manager Steve Kamasz is proposing that the first leg be in Melbourne and the return match in Sydney, assuming teams from those cities are in the grand final.

On the weekend of October 27-28, most of the Soccer "heavies" will be in Sydney for meetings so it would be logical to play the October 28 game in the Harbour City.

ADELAIDE CITY introduced its cut-price ticket scheme again for the match against League leader South Melbourne in the National Conference.

The plan was going well until the heavens opened and the fans stayed away in droves to avoid the big wet.

It was a pity, as their team played one of its best games of the season, although going down 2-3 after twice leading.

WOLLONGONG WOLVES have blooded an unprecedented number of young players this year, mainly because they had no alternative.

When Darren Nees got a run for Wolves against St George, coach Adrian Alston cracked: "He's 18 — one of my older players!"

TODD CLARKE certainly hates changing his goalkeeper's jersey.

Before his recent 1984 NSL debut appearance against Marconi, Clarke was ordered to change his "VFL" look-a-like top for a more conventional yellow jersey.

It seems the refereeing contingent were worried because of its predominantly black colour.

WEST ADELAIDE'S tale of suspension woe continued when midfielder Tim Brown and Chris Manou were booked to reach 12 penalty points and join Brenton Hiern on the suspension list.

Captain Graham Honeyman could be the next to go as he is near the 12-point mark with the season coming to a close.

BRISBANE CITY captain Frank Pimblett is considering a move to Sydney next season.

English midfielder Pimblett has served the Brisbane club well since the start of the National League eight years ago.

Pimblett says Brisbane City needed to score more goals to be a force this year.

"We've scored 17 goals this year. John Kosmina scored more than us!" Pimblett joked.

AUSTRALIA has lost another player to the UK.

Graham McMillan, a member of the squad at the Australian Institute of Sport, leaves for trials with Scotland's Rangers next month.

He played for Motherwell then trained with Rangers before coming back to Australia and the Institute earlier this year.

He was originally with Azurri in the SA State League First Division.

RANDWICK-BOTANY Police Boys club arranged an end-of-season trip to Port Stephens, including a challenge match against a Newcastle U11 rep team.

Then... trouble. The kids couldn't find a ground anywhere in the area because all were being top-dressed or prepared for Cricket.

Adamstown Rosebuds came to the rescue, allowing the match to go on at Adamstown Oval last Sunday.

It's nice to know that Rosebuds, despite all their own problems, found time to help out the youngsters.

LOOKALIKES



□ SYDNEY CROATIA's exciting young striker Graham Arnold bears a strong resemblance to another talented Sydney sportsman, cricketer Mike Whitney. That's Whitney on the left and Arnold on the right.

THERE was an element of surprise in Willie Wallace putting his faith in the unknown goalkeeper Mike Gibson for Penrith City's first year in the National League.

However, Wallace had had a look at Gibson, now 21, a few years back when he was in charge at Lambert Park.

Whilst Gibson was not ready then, Wallace was convinced that, if he added some polish, Gibson would make his name with the Penrith club.

WATCH for the name Alistair Crook.

No, he's no relation to former Socceroo Martyn Crook, but he is a goalkeeper, and he does play for West Adelaide.

Between the posts for the NSL reserve team in the SA State League First Division, he improves with every game and could be pushing Gary Sproul for the senior place next season.

THE day of reckoning has come for former Newcastle KB United players who joined other clubs when KB folded.

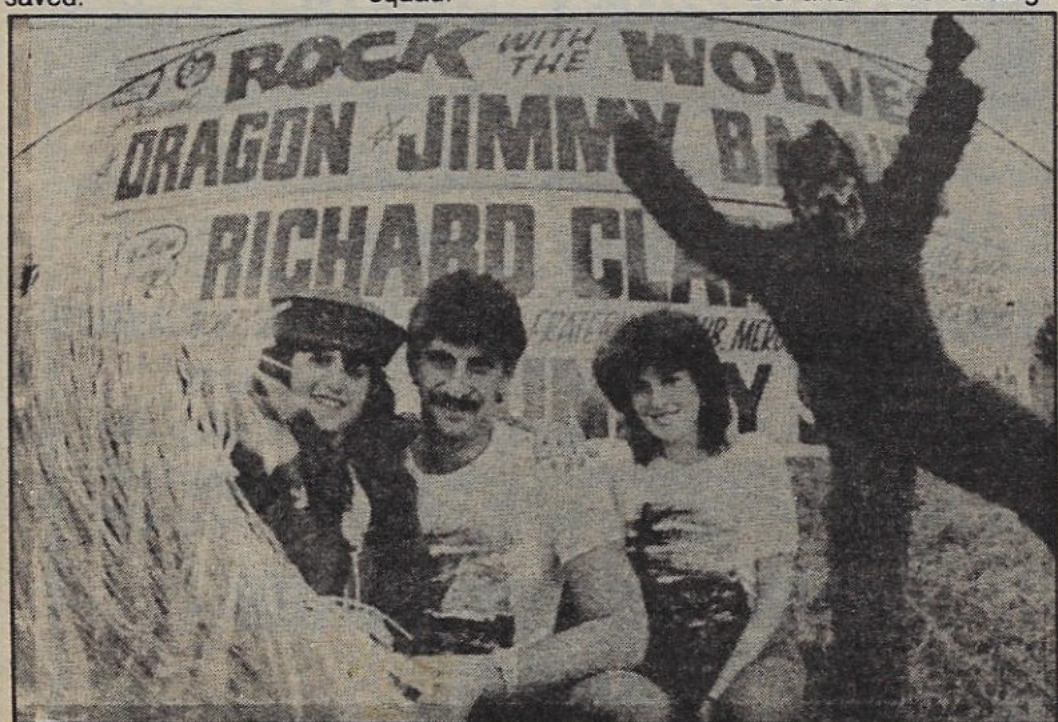
Following a meeting between the liquidator, the NSL and ASF, the players and clubs involved have been sent letters detailing what cash must be paid for them.

Adamstown Rosebud, who could be up for \$50,000 in transfer fees, are not at all happy about the deal.

YOUNG Wollongong City midfielder-cum striker Peter Kotamanidis (pictured above) certainly knows how to score goals.

A St George youth player during the 1983 season, Kotamanidis is the leading goalscorer for the Wolves this year with seven goals to his credit.

Not bad for a player who has constantly changed positions this year. In fact, the youngster was almost called into the sweeper's job before the game against St George.

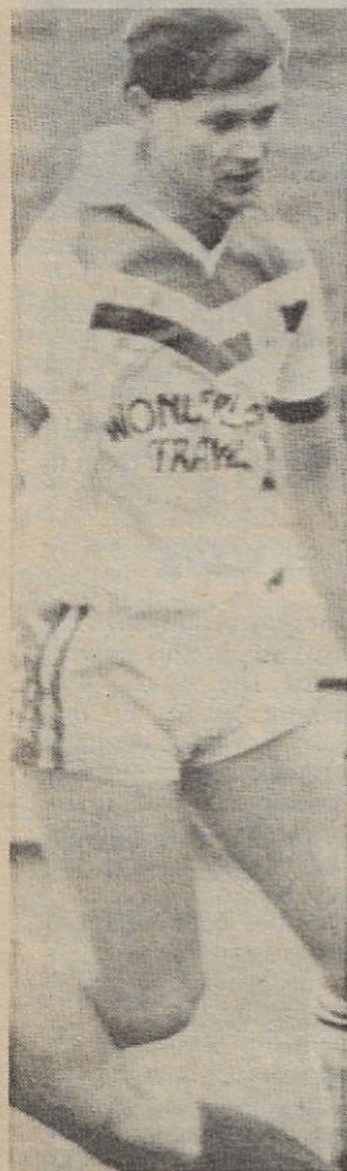


□ NATCH VARDAREFF, the famous Wollongong Wolf, and two friends get together in a promotion exercise for the forthcoming "Rock with the Wolves" concert. As their major fund-raising effort for the year, Wollongong City aim to have over 10,000 rock music lovers at Brandon Park on Sunday September 30 from noon to 6.30pm.

IT'S PRESSURE BOTH WAYS

SYDNEY CITY coach Eddie Thomson has warned to crack the whip after the loss to St George.

The Slickers are in danger of losing the Australian Conference premiership to Sydney Olympic who are only two points adrift.



□ HOWARD TREDINNICK

Sydney City face Olympic in the last round on Sunday week in what could draw the record crowd of the season.

This Sunday, Sydney City clash with Melita Eagles at the Sydney Athletic Field and will have their big guns back - powerhouse midfielder Murray Barnes and tough centre-back Steve O'Connor.

Both missed the match against St George due to suspensions.

Raul Blanco has the job ahead to lift team morale following the 0-3 defeat to Sydney Olympic.

Melita will be hoping for a top class performance from goalkeeper Alex McPherson, who brilliantly blocked an avalanche of Olympic goals last Sunday.

With Barnes back in the midfield and O'Connor in the centre of defence, Melita's task looms as mission impossible.

If Melita hopes to salvage something from the match they will have to throw men up front, as against Olympic they rarely looked like scoring.

John Kosmina and Grant Lee will prove a big test for Melita's back four of Colin McAusland, Bobby McGinn, Ken Wilson and Howard Tredinnick.

Kosmina will be shooting for his 100th NSL goal.



□ JOHN KOSMINA is presented with the silver tray for 100 appearances by Slickers chairman Sam Fiszman.

KOSMINA HITS TON

BY JOHN ECONOMOS

JOHN KOSMINA, Sydney City's Australian World Cup captain, knocked up his 100th full NSL match for his club last Saturday against St George and is just one goal short of 100 in the NSL.

John was presented with a beautiful engraved silver tray just before the St George match by his club's chairman of Soccer, Sam Fiszman.

Kosmina is the sixth current club player to become a "Sydney City Centurion."

The other century-makers are Todd Clarke, Alex Robertson, Joe Watson, Steve O'Connor and captain Murray Barnes.

Next Sunday against Parramatta Melita, Kosmina

will be chasing his 100th NSL goal and 70th for Sydney City.

Kosmina's 69 goals for Sydney City make him the second highest marksman in the club's history, second only to the magical Austrian, Herbert Ninaus, who holds the record with 88 goals.

Former Australian World Cup striker Ray Baartz is in third position, having scored 68 goals before retiring.

The 28-year-old Australian captain will be one of

Frank Arok's aces when Australia fights next year for World Cup qualification.

Sydney City coach Eddie Thomson said: "John as a striker has everything."

"He is strong in the air, excellent on the deck, has powerful shots in either feet and is a great competitor. "He is tough and still plays when injured, never complaining," he said.

I remember Kosmina back in 1976 at the Sydney Sports Ground when Australian coach Jimmy Shooler turned him loose in the last 20 minutes against the

visiting Tottenham Hotspur.

Kosmina, although coming on cold, with his very first touch of the ball bore straight into the Spurs box, splitting the giant English defenders to go inches from scoring after colliding with Spurs' keeper, Barry Daines.

In all the years I've watched Kosmina, he has always impressed with his strong, brave, direct line of play. He is a very difficult striker to hold and uses enormous strength on the ball — making him hard to

knock off.

I rate Kosmina the deadliest, most powerful finisher in the box in Australia.

Best example of Kosmina's consistency is his record this year. In 21 matches, he has scored 20 goals. That's "effective striking" in anyone's language.

It is interesting to note that the Israeli Soccer press is monitoring Kosmina's performances in Australia, as they claim he is Israel's biggest danger in their World Cup aspirations.

ABONYI EMBARKS ON NEW CAREER

By JOHN ECONOMOS

ATTI ABONYI, former Australian World Cup striker, has embarked on a new career that will insure his family's security. He has joined the AMP as a consulting representative.

Abonyi, assistant to national coach Frank Arok during the World Soccer Series, found full-time Soccer an unstable way of making a living. He was

advised by another AMP member Mike Johnson to join the Society.

Atti's wife is Marion and he has two children, Robbie and Karen.

For the last four months, he has been employed and trained by the AMP.

"I am very happy with the AMP. It is a brand new challenge for me. I find that the new position enables me to be my own master and I can space my time in such a manner that I can still accommodate time for Soccer," he said.

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AT LAST — COACHING IS MOVING FORWARD

"UNITED we stand, divided we fall" . . . that could well have been the motto adopted by the elite of Australia's Soccer coaches when they met on the new Level Four course in Canberra last week.

It was indeed gratifying for all lovers of the game in Australia to see this course come into being under the direction of national director of coaching Eric Worthington.

Nothing but good can come of such a venture and it marks great progress in the development of coaching in Australia.

Only a couple of weeks ago, I lamented in this column about the destructive fragmentation in our coaching ranks at top NSL level.

This was a flaw in Australia's make-up that had to be remedied and remedied quickly.

Now it looks as if the first real step in uniting the top men of our coaching fraternity was taken in Canberra last week.

Taking part in the venture along with Eric Worthington were Socceroo sup-

Comment

BY TOM ANDERSON

remo Frank Arok and his assistants Eddie Thomson and John Margaritis, national youth coach Jim Shoulder along with other notables such as Les Scheinflug, Len McKendry, Jimmy Rooney and Bruce Stowell to name a few.

All men with the undoubted talent to further the development of the greatest game of all, here in Australia.

The Level Four course was designed to bring our top coaches up to date with the latest happenings in the game.

Also to exchange views on coaching methods in a positive manner and in a climate of friendship.

The language of football is universal and no matter where a man has come from and what his background may be, all barriers are broken down when football is spoken.

At least this should be the criteria if all petty jealousies are put aside for the benefit of the profession and the game.

An experienced coach should be able to work successfully in any country in the world and this includes Australia.

Up-to-date

If a coach knows his profession — and these fellows in Canberra last week certainly do — players will recognise their ability and

respond in the desired fashion.

But for a coach to remain in the top rating he must always keep in step with the modern game and be up-to-date.

This is the main reason for Worthington instituting the Level Four course.

There is no substitute for knowledge in the coaching profession.

Knowledge that usually can be gained by travelling overseas, mixing and talking and learning from brother coaches throughout the world.

Here in Australia we are greatly handicapped in this respect by our rather isolated geographical position.

It's just not financially viable for our coaches to trip off around the world every year at the drop of a hat.

A top class professional coach can learn about the performance of teams by watching television but TV viewing is grossly limited when it comes to improving his coaching ability.

Top coaches learn from other top coaches and



□ JIM SHOULDER: taking part in Level Four course.

travel broadens this knowledge.

The coach who is content to sit at home and exist only by his own ideas or through what is written in the coaching manuals can only gain limited and short term success.

In the long term he will fail and will not reach, or stay in, the top echelon in his profession.

The "seek and ye shall find" syndrome certainly brings success in Soccer coaching.

Now this Level Four course is going, Eric Worthington is determined to continue his quest for improvement at top coaching level.

In the past, we have had top FIFA coaching authorities such as Dettmar Cramer and Joe Venglos visit here to impart their knowledge — with great success.

In close liaison with the

ASF and FIFA he intends to organise the visits here by some of the world's top coaches.

If we can't go to them, then bring a few of them to us, will be the outlook.

Visits

The way is now open for more visits of this nature.

Over the years, the coaching set-up in this country has been designed to produce a great quantity of coaches to tend to the needs of the great number of youngsters kicking the round ball.

This has been achieved with outstanding success and the production line is now running smoothly.

With this thoroughly established, it's now heart-warming to see national director Worthington focus his attention on the top echelon and the quality faction.



□ ERIC WORTHINGTON (right) takes a training session.

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SYDNEY CITY EMPHASIS ON YOUTH

SYDNEY CITY Soccer Club will be conducting Youth League trials for Under 19s, 16s, 15s, 14s and 13s in October at the Sydney Sports Ground.

Sessions will be held on Thursdays and Fridays on October 11-12 and 18-19, commencing at 6pm.

The Youth League teams are now under the direct control of the Sydney City club. This is a progressive step in an attempt to concentrate on a professional youth development policy.

It is evident that, over the years, Sydney City have had a concentration of young talented boys. Ean Rodrigues, Jean Paul de Marigny, Graeme Fletcher and Grant Lee are currently playing in the NSL team.

A significant amount of the Sydney City budget has now been allocated for youth development.

A leading coaching staff has been engaged to run the Youth League, which includes former Australian international John Doyle, former Hakoah and NSW representative Keith Jones, and Shane Wilson, who will continue as coaching director and Under 16 coach.

Though the Sydney City Youth League last year did not perform as well as could be expected (in terms of competition placings), a pleasing feature was the selection of four boys from the Under 16 side to play for the Under 19 team.

Undoubtedly, the main purpose of the Youth League is the progression of boys to a higher standard of football.

Sydney City's secretary-manager Paul Bayutti emphasised the importance of youth development.

"Currently, we have Fabian Sacilotto (17), Michael Criticos (16), Steven Lundy (16), Andrew Bow (16) and Mario Geriassis (16) playing Under 19 football, all of whom have progressed through the Sydney City Youth



League," he said.

"Another feature of our policy is that boys showing exceptional talents are asked to train with the under 19 squad. For instance, Ricky Somboli (15) is in the train-on squad receiving advanced coaching under the guidance of our youth coaches, Geoff Harcombe and Roger Musgrove.

"Therefore, we feel that the groundwork is being laid to establish a truly successful and professional youth development policy, which will ensure that young talented boys will receive the coaching necessary to progress to a higher standard of football," concluded Bayutti.



□ FIVE of Sydney City Youth League's most promising players pictured at their presentation night with club officials.

BACK ROW (from left): Michael Critikos, Paul Bayutti (club secretary), Mario Geriassis, Mick Hickman (club physiotherapist).

FRONT ROW: Peter Papoythis, Andrew Bow, Stephen Lundy.

SOUTH AMERICAN SEARCH

BRISBANE CITY want to sign two South American strikers for their challenge for National League honours next year.

BY GREG RUSSELL

The club has instructed several contacts in Argentina and Brazil to begin scouting for recruits.

And it is understood a "considerable" amount of club funds has been set aside to secure the type of players the club wants.

"We do not want to sign anyone from the UK and

we cannot compete with the wages and transfer fees of Italian football, so South America is the natural alternative," City secretary John Ponturo said.

"We will be spending whatever it takes to get the type of players we want."

Brisbane City had great success with South Ameri-

can players during the late 1970s with the skilful Carlos Natale and Robert Echeverria, a national squad member under Rudi Gutendorf, and goalkeeper Osvaldo Borzi. Borzi is acting as one of City's scouts.

With only 17 goals this season, the City attack is the worst of all 24 NSL clubs.

While there are plenty of

young strikers on the City books, including Lee Scriggins, Andy Chapman, Stephen Glockner and Mark Barry, the club is hoping some experienced imports will help and inspire the youngsters.

"This year has been one of consolidation but next season has to be much more successful," Ponturo said.

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□ ROY JONES (right) holds off Sydney Olympic's Peter Katholos.

YOUNG TALENT EMERGES IN CANBERRA

BRAD EARL'S feature on local youngsters making it in the NSL prompts me to feature the many young players at Canberra Arrows this year.

The Arrows would boast the youngest side in Australia and, thanks to the games they've all played in 1984, you can add the words "experienced young players" to the team which represents the National Capital in the NSL.

Doug Collins, the Arrows coach, speaks highly of the type of persons these young players are and also talks about the character they have shown in their first season in the NSL.

Here are the Canberra youngsters with Collins' comments on their performances.

MARKO PERINOVIC, 19, a local Canberra product has played 18 times this year for nine goals, three in one match against George Cross in Melbourne recently.



□ ANTHONY FRANKEN on guard.

ANTHONY FRANKEN, 19, has played 22 times for the Arrows this year and of course created a tremendous impression during the World Soccer Series with his performances for the Australia "B" team. Selected for the national team to defend the Merlion Cup and in the squad for the Socceroos' world tour in November.

According to Collins, Franken has had a tremendous first year in the NSL and has the ability and temperament to become one of the great keepers in Australian Soccer. Came from Western Australia to the AIS and then to the Arrows.

ROY JONES, 19, another Western Australian who came to the Arrows via the AIS and also a Young Socceroo in the 1983 World Youth Championship finals in Mexico. Played 25 times in the NSL this year for three goals. Nicknamed "Centrepunt" because of his height.

GEORGE ECONOMOPOULOS, 18, hails from the Downer Olympic club and has been the stand-in goalkeeper in recent NSL matches whilst Franken has been injured. Has only conceded one goal in four NSL matches and obviously solves Collins' deputy goalkeeper problem for the Arrows next year.

MANIS LAMOND, 17, has played seven NSL games in 1984 and is one of the most exciting young talents in the country. Came from New Guinea to Cairns in North Queensland and joined the Arrows two seasons ago.

JOHN MIHAILIDIS, 19, another AIS product, who hails from Melbourne's Heidelberg club. Was born in West Germany and has played 24 games for the Arrows. Has scored two goals in 1984 from the midfield position and Collins says of him: "A great competitor who is very much like Tommy McCulloch. He is a coaches' player and I feel he is destined for international honours in the near future."

ALAN REIS, 21, has played 25 times in the Arrows first team for seven goals. Originally a Canberra City player, then to the AIS, then Inter Monaro, Reis is back with the Arrows and is a player Collins rates highly.

FRANK FARINA, 19, needs little introduction. Hails from Mareeba in North Queensland, then to the AIS and the Arrows. A Young Socceroo in Mexico, Channel 0/28's "Most Entertaining Player of the Year" last season and the player most clubs would love to have on their books. A sensation in the World Soccer Series, picked in the Merlion Cup squad and the Socceroo world tour squad, Farina has scored eight goals in his 18 NSL appearances this year.

This article is reproduced courtesy of
Ian Warden of the Canberra Times

Father of Year nomination

THIS COLUMN has not had a great deal of success in commending certain people for recognition and for appointments and awards. In spite of my urgings, Sir Ken Rosewall seems no closer to the Governor-Generalship, Mr Allan Seale, the lipping horticulturist, still suffers from Mr Hawke's churlish refusal to give him a knighthood and, incredibly, the works of Mr Pro Hart are still not represented in the Prado or the Louvre, or even in our own National Gallery where the walls are cluttered instead with rubbish by Whistler and Monet and other foreigners.

Discouraged, I had decided to stop my championing but another worthy cause has arisen which my love of truth and justice will not allow me to ignore.

Surely Mr Craig Johnston is the obvious choice as the next Father of the Year.

Mr Johnston, the talented Australian-born athlete who has found fame in playing soccer

on the muddy swards of England for Liverpool, the most august team in England and one of the greatest club sides on our planet, has decided not to go back to England to ply his lucrative trade until his wife has had their baby in Australia. To his credit he appears to have forgiven her for her lack of consideration in deciding to have the baby during the soccer season rather than during the few weeks between seasons.

Johnston, for his part, has said that he is happy to forgo his stupendous wages and the adulation of 50,000 chanting fans while he waits to be with his one wife as she has their one baby in Australia.

By his actions Mr Johnston establishes himself as an example of the "new man", a sensitive, poetry-writing, nappy-changing soul. That he should also be a footballer, traditionally not the most progressive or the most enlightened of professions, adds an extra gloss to Mr Johnston's manly achievement.



CAPTAIN SOCCEROO

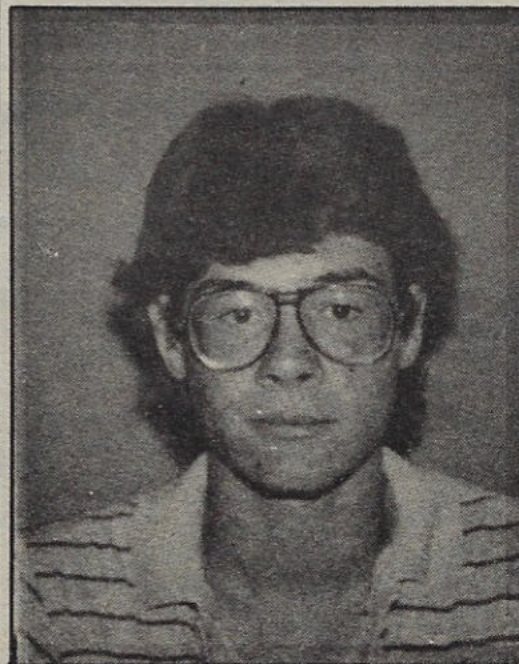
WITH JOHNNY WARREN

□ MORE than 150 people were at the last Canberra Arrows VIP dinner to hear guest speaker, the Minister for Sport, Tourism and Recreation John Brown MP.

The Minister is pictured here with the VIP's special guest for the evening, Craig Johnston, and the Arrows president Charles Perkins.



AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF SPORT PEN-PORTRAITS



5 - TOM BURKE - Defender, 15.4.66. The tallest member of the squad, Tom has the potential to be a top-class stopper once he adds more aggression to his game. He is quick for a tall person and difficult to pass and another consistent performer in Western Australian U16 and Youth teams.



6 - SEAN GREAVES - Midfield, 15.6.66. For the past year Sean has been a regular member of the strong Beograd club in the South Australian State League and was voted the club's outstanding young player. He is a mature player, happy in midfield or at right full-back.

JOHNSTON COMMENTS

CRAIG JOHNSTON, a guest at the Arrows VIP Club dinner, had an answer for some critics who allege that he is not interested in playing for Australia.

He said, "You can imagine what Liverpool would say if, around FA Cup Final time I said to them: 'Excuse me, there's a match with Papua-New Guinea coming up, do you mind if I go over for a couple of weeks?'"

"I would love to wear the Green and Gold. It has been my ambition since I was so high, but unfortunately there is no way in the world that Liverpool would let me."

Asked about his greatest moment in British Soccer, Johnston said that it was when he heard on a television programme that Liverpool wanted to buy him.

READERS FORUM

In this spot every week, we shall publish extracts from readers' letters — good or bad! If you want your opinions aired, please keep letters and postcards short and to the point. Write to The Editor, AUSTRALIAN SOCCER WEEKLY, PO Box 406, Broadway, 2007.

CLEAR UP RELEGATION ISSUE

AFTER reading ASW regarding promotion and relegation, I would like to point out that the NSL now has a wonderful opportunity to clear the whole thing up.

For the 1985 season the top six teams from each of the two divisions to be promoted to form the first division in 1986. The bottom six teams will form the second division.

At the end of 1986 season the bottom team from first division is relegated and the leading club from second division is promoted.

The bottom team from second division is relegated and the leading club from the area where the relegated team comes from is invited to apply to join the NSL. If that team does not meet the criteria necessary for NSL status then the bot-

tom team remains in the League.

As I see it, the above method is the fairest of all and as it only entails one club per season it will not have too many wrinkles to be sorted out.

As the Channel 0-28 coverage is very good and a lot of dirty play is being shown, how about making a weekly list of the worst six offenders and let the readers know who they are? There are some shockers on the pitch — from some of the top teams — and they should be exposed.

STEVE WHITCOMBE,
Braddon, ACT.

FORM A 'SUPER 8'

I WOULD like to make the following proposals.

SUPER LEAGUE: comprising eight teams, two from Sydney, Melbourne and Adelaide, and one each from Brisbane and Canberra. To play twice per season home and away.

AUSTRALIA CUP: a knockout competition where surviving eight teams join "Super 8" in a knockout through to the Grand Final.

The top two of the Super League to play against two invited overseas clubs, to compete in a round-robin with big promotion and prizemoney.

The invited clubs should be ones who have a reputation of crowd-pleasing and attacking Soccer, eg. Celtic, Spurs, Barcelona,

New York Cosmos.

High priority given to a Youth League attracting coaches such as Raul Blanco, Les Scheinflug, Jimmy Rooney, Jim Shouder, Atti Abonyi: people who appear to have a special rapport with young players.

Other suggestions: that no transfer fee be allowed between the "Super 8"; only reasonable compensation be paid to State League clubs for players recruited from them for the "Super 8"; all games to be played at Soccer venues to maintain atmosphere; all games to be timed so as to attract as many of the Soccer community as possible.

JOSEPH McCANN,
Coogee, NSW.

REAL AUSSIES

ISN'T it about time the Australian national team become REALLY Australian?

What a wonderful opportunity in the tour of China to show the Asians that we have genuine home-bred talent here, without being propped up by imports.

Perhaps Arok's squad would be marginally weakened by dropping people like Watson, Ratcliffe, Cant, Robertson,

Murphy, Egan and Phil O'Connor, but they COULD be replaced by very good local talent.

For the World Cup in 1966, 1970 and 1974, imports were essential. For 1986, they are not.

'SKIPPI',
Fairfield, NSW.

THANK YOU JOHN

AS a member of the Australian Women's Soccer team, I would like to express my appreciation for the tremendous work done by ASW staff reporter, John Economos.

John has helped us in two ways.

Firstly he has given us some much-needed publicity. Player write-ups and even front page coverage in the ASW have given us a tremendous boost.

John has also worked hard to help our financial situation. Over the years it

has been an unwanted burden to continually pay enormous amounts of money to represent one's country. Organisation of sponsorships will alleviate this problem and allow us to concentrate on training rather than on fund raising.

SUE MONTEATH,
Bardon, Qld.

MID-STATE GROWTH

THANK-YOU for your support of our league throughout 1984.

The competition has grown in strength once again this season, making it truly the premier NSW league west of Sydney.

We trust you will continue to push our cause in the country through your publication.

PAT ALLEN, Publicity officer,
Mid-State Soccer League,
Orange, NSW.



□ ALAN NIVEN on the ball for Brisbane Lions.

SOCCER'S GONE DOWNHILL

READING Lynne Terry's letter about the Sydney City v Leichhardt match, I would quite agree, except for the comment about being immortalised in bronze as an adamant "pro-White Australia Policy supporter".

What has that nonsense got to do with Soccer? This is one of the reasons why Soccer has gone downhill.

It was good to see that our Southern counterparts have come to the conclusion that Brisbane Lions and Brisbane City should still be there. Admittedly I'm sure the flying part of it must be quite expensive, so I would suggest to the Brisbane Clubs to get a charter plane.

I see young Alan Davidson is going to England to play for Nottingham Forest. One of your writers has already nominated his successor — Tony Curcio. Good luck to the lad, but to

me the best back in Australia at the moment is young Steve Jackson from Lions, who can fit in both right and left and is also a pretty good sweeper. Also Mr Arok, look around a bit more — I don't think Alan Niven has lost his touch either.

So I say give other lads a fair go, because I'm positive there are a few good players outside Sydney and Melbourne.

Even one of our Premier League keepers, young Brett Beves, is as good as any you have down South.

SAMUEL MCGREGOR,
Brisbane, Qld.

UNLUCKY RICH MISSES OUT

A CALF muscle injury has cost Brisbane Lions midfielder Rich Bassingthwaite a place in the Australian team to contest the Merlion Cup in Singapore next month.

Bassingthwaite, who toured Europe earlier this season with the Australian Institute of Sport team after an invitation from national Youth coach Jim Shouder, shaped as one of Queensland's few hopes for the side.

According to Bassingthwaite, his leg feels numb if he exercises and doctors have told him he needs an operation on his calf muscles to allow the

circulation to return to normal.

"It seems that all the running I have done over the last couple of years has built up the calf muscle so much that the doctors now have to operate on the sheathes and cut through the muscle," he said.

While Bassingthwaite only spent a day in hospital, he has been told to take a two-week break before starting light training.

PHOTOS

FOR PRINTS OF PHOTOS APPEARING IN ASW, PHONE DAVID JELLINGS, 02-33 4904 AFTER 5PM

NSL YOUTH LEAGUE

AIS GOES OUT WITH A BANG

THE Australian Institute of Sport finished their National Youth League programme with a bang. Following their 2-2 draw with local rivals Canberra Arrows on Saturday they stormed back on Sunday to steamroll Marconi 5-0.

By Peter Russell

Second-placed St George struggled on Saturday against Sydney City but fought back to gain a precious point against the talented young Slickers.

Third-placed Melita Eagles had too many big guns for the plucky Olympic side and ran out winners 3-0.

Newcastle hung on to an early goal to outstay Croatia and keep a hold on fourth spot on the table.

Penrith made it hard for the Leichhardt 'Strikers' on Friday night and it took a late penalty and last minute goal to beat them. In the remaining match at the Woollongong Showground, Blacktown Demons were narrow winners by 2-1 over the Wolves.

On Friday night at St Marys, the Panthers nearly drew first blood in their encounter with Leichhardt when 25 seconds after the start, CRAIG CASTELLINO'S spectacular overhead kick was just tipped over by keeper BOB CATLIN. The remainder of the half remained fairly even with Penrith slightly on top. The second half continued in the same way but with Leichhardt coming more into the game. PAUL JONES opened the scoring for Leichhardt in the 73rd minute from the penalty spot after he had been pulled down. FRANK SPERANZA got the second in the 89th minute.

At the Hawker Oval, Canberra, on Saturday, the Arrows had to play defender MIKE MENDEZ in goal for the first half against rivals A.I.S. as regular keeper GEORGE ECONOMOPOULOS was exam bound.

The Institute took the lead through LOU HRISTODILOU with a header from a corner, then MIKE MENDEZ failed to hold a shot and TOM BURKE followed up to put away the rebound.

But Arrows were rejuvenated in the second half with the appearance of their regular keeper fresh

from TAFE. JASON DUNNE pulled one back for the Arrows as they piled on the pressure.

In the final minute, they were rewarded when MANIS LAMOND was fouled inside the area and TONY REDMOND converted.

At the Sydney Athletic Field on Saturday, spectacular goals from full-back MICHAEL CRITICOS in the sixth minute and a header from keeper-cum-striker JIM KONISTIS in 30 minutes were not enough to carry the talented young Slickers through against a fighting Saints side with the top four series firmly in their sights.

St George fought back with goals from SCOTT WATSON in the 22nd minute from the penalty spot, then CHRIS POLIAS in the 73rd minute.

At St George Stadium on Sunday, the Eagles were too strong for Olympic and were in control for most of the game. MICHAEL TOMMA opened the scoring in the 17th minute when he was on hand to head home a rebound and four minutes

later, PETER WHITESIDE made it two when he broke away from the halfway line to outstrip the defence.

LENNIE VIAL put the icing on the cake a minute from time when he was put through with a fine ball from LINDSAY SMITH.

At King Tomislay on Sunday, Newcastle were always in command and despite the closeness of the score never appeared to be in trouble. BILLY TONKIN scored the goal in the 20th minute after TERRY MASON had intercepted a week pass back from JOHN UGARKOVIC.

With nothing at stake in the game at Woollongong Showground between the Wolves and the Demons, both sides played open entertaining football with EARL CANVIN opening the scoring in the 17th minute from the penalty spot after he had been pulled down by keeper CRAIG ALLNUT.

BOB MOUNTFORD levelled the scores in the 39th minute with a header and GARY HENDER grabbed the winner for the Demons in the 85th minute.



Mountford

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
AIS	24	16	4	4	59	24	36
St George	23	12	5	6	50	41	29
Melita Eagles	23	12	4	7	42	32	28
Newcastle	23	11	6	6	33	27	28
Leichhardt	23	11	5	7	37	27	27
Canberra	23	12	3	8	45	37	27
Sydney City	23	9	4	10	49	35	22
Marconi	23	7	6	10	33	44	20
Olympic	23	8	3	12	45	49	19
Blacktown	23	8	3	12	23	43	19
Penrith	23	7	2	14	34	52	16
Croatia	23	6	3	14	25	41	15
Woollongong	23	6	2	15	37	60	14

AVALA SPORTS CLUB LTD

Seeks application for coach 1st grade 2nd grade 3rd grade

STATE LEAGUE DIV I for 1985 Season

Applications stating qualifications & experience are to be addressed to: The Soccer Manager, Jack Cirjanic, c/- 54 Charter St, Green Valley 2168.

Enquire to 607 3650 (H) Applications close Friday Nov 3



□ LAST YEAR'S WINNER: Agenor Muniz presented with his Medal by Rothmans State manager Bob Page.

PREVIOUS WINNERS

1970 George Blues (APIA) 23 pts.
 1971 Johnny Watkiss (HAKOAH) 31 pts.
 1972 Manfred Schaefer (ST GEORGE) 30 pts.
 1973 John McDonald (AUBURN) 30 pts.
 1974 Mike Trebilcock (WESTERN SUBURBS) 19 pts.
 1975 John McDonald (SUTHERLAND) 26 pts.
 1976 Bruce Stowell (PAN HELLENIC) 32 pts.
 1977 John Watkiss (SUTHERLAND) 26 pts.
 1978 Terry Butler (APIA) 27 pts.
 1979 John Lee (BANKSTOWN) 36 pts.
 1980 Neil Williams (CANTERBURY-MARRICKVILLE) 35 pts.
 1981 Dez Marton (ST GEORGE) 30 pts.
 1982 John Stoddart (RIVERWOOD) 34 pts.
 1983 Agenor Muniz (Avala) 24 pts.

TINGLE SAVES MANLY

A penalty shoot-out was needed to determine Sutherland's grand final opponents in the third grade final at Gabbie Stadium.

At the end of the shoot-out, Manly emerged victors 4-2 and killed Polonia's high hopes of entering the grand final. Young Manly replacement goalie Warren Tingle was in fine form denying Polonia with two brilliant penalty saves.

The match erupted in the 56th minute when

McLean opened the scoring for Polonia but Varga responded for Manly to level terms in the 72nd minute.

After the mandatory extra-time period, the scores were still locked at 1-1 but Manly finished victors after Varga, Cimarcosti, Gonzales and Larman scored from the spot while Kuzmanovic and Csoka responded for Polonia.

MANLY: Bedding (Tingle 78), Theodore, Melville, Dennis, Varga, Cimarcosti, Annan (Galea 65), Larman, Loughran, Reeve, Gonzales.

POLONIA: Anderson, Soares, Weir, Main (SO 50), White, Csoka, McLean, Vanderburg, Viegas, Fogerty (Kuzmanovic 45), Pelusso.

BEST BETS FOR THE ROTHMANS

TRYING to determine this year's Rothmans Medal winner is like trying to win the lottery — an almost impossible mission.

Indeed, over the years, many people have been surprised with the choice of the winner.

Last year, Avala's ex-Socceroo midfielder Agenor Muniz was the shock winner when he totalled 24 points, one clear of Sutherland's Nigel Groome.

Since the inaugural award there have been some very close finishes in the counting.

This year, ASW has asked leading officials and coaches of various clubs to nominate candidates.

Each club contacted was asked to submit two selections from within their own ranks and two choices from other clubs in the competition.

ASW feels some "dark horses" could spring up in the final points tally.

Ex-Canterbury-Marrickville striker Chris Thaminidis enjoyed a very successful first year with Yugal.

Polonia goalie Ian Barker was in tremendous form throughout the season and on many occasions saved Polonia from some very embarrassing scorelines. Along with team-mate Antek Galas, he should figure prominently.

Robbie Stuart, although not selected by coach Richard Alagich, has also had a good year. Last year he finished with 11 points.

Experienced midfielder Andy Tracey looked the goods in his first year with Ku-ring-gai. One of the State League's most versatile players, Tracey has been a credit to the Chasers.

Whoever wins, the winner of the 1984 Rothmans Medal will join an elite band.

AUBURN-URUGUAY: Fred Parker (official) 1. Ricky Budini (Avala) 2. Terry Bertram (Ku-ring-gai)

Club selection: Carlos Rosano, Mike Kelly.

AVALA: Steve Lalic (coach) 1. Branko Karanfilovski (Rockdale) 2. Walter Valeri (Monaro).

Club selection: Ricky Budini, Nicola Duvnjak.

BANKSTOWN-NATIONAL: Jim Giffin (official) 1. Ross Brown (Rockdale) 2. Bobby Pagano (Manly).

Club selection: Steve Blackburn, Wayne Cootes.

CANTERBURY-MARRICKVILLE: John Xipolitis (ex-coach) 1. Issac Farrell (Inter-Monaro) 2. Bas Giampaolo (Inter-Monaro)

Club selection: Loui Dounnis, John Pettas.

INTER-MONARO: Vic Fernandez (coach) 1. Ross Brown (Rockdale) 2. Branko Karanfilovski (Rockdale).

Club selection: Baz Giampaolo, Walter Valeri.

KU-RING-GAI: Vic Dalglish (coach) 1. Ricky Budini (Avala) 2. Walter Valeri (Inter-Monaro).

Club selection: Andy Tracey, Terry Bertram.

MANLY: Richard Alagich (coach) 1. Ross Brown (Rockdale) 2. Bas Giampaolo (Inter-Monaro).

Club selection: Tom Steven, Steven Leak.

POLONIA: Gerry Chrabowski (official) 1. Walter Valeri (Inter-Monaro) 2. Ross Brown (Rockdale).

Club selection: Ian Barker, Antek Galas.

ROCKDALE: Ilya Takacs (coach) 1. Walter Valeri (Inter-Monaro) 2. Vic Dal Forno (Sutherland).

Club selection: Terry Jones, Ross Brown.

SUTHERLAND: John Lavin (coach) 1. Bas Giampaolo (Inter-Monaro) 2. Ross Brown (Rockdale).

Club selection: Mitch Hesford, Vic Dal Forno.

WARRINGAH-NARRABEEN: John Wignall (coach) 1. Ross Brown (Rockdale) 2. Steven Knight (Auburn).

Club selection: Peter Dean, Billy Bulloch.



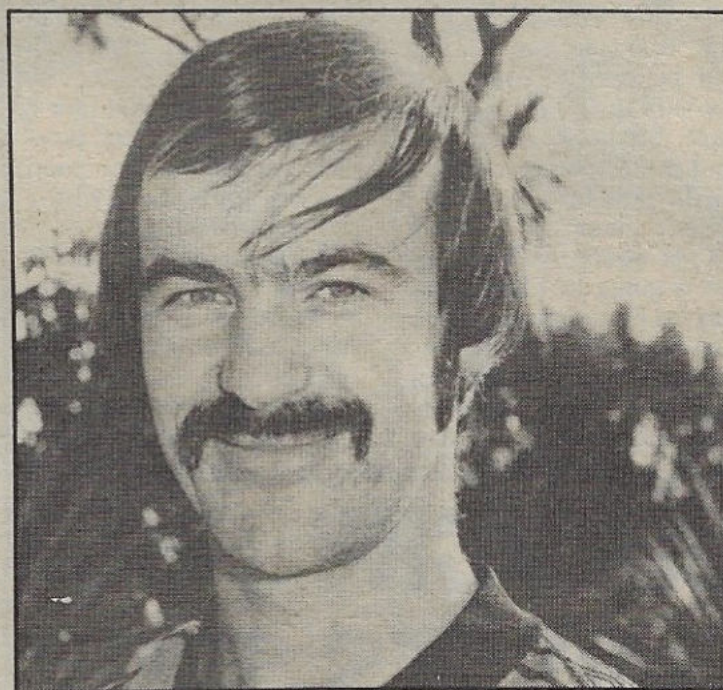
□ CONTENDER: ROSS BROWN (dark shirt), tackled by Manly defender John Dick in the State League preliminary final.



□ CONTENDER: STEVEN KNIGHT



□ CONTENDER: RICKY BUDINI



□ CONTENDER: ANDY TRACEY

NSW SOCCER FEDERATION

PRESENTS

TOP ACTION SOCCER

DIVISION 1 — GRAND FINALS

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

MARCONI STADIUM

1st gde Inter Monaro v Rockdale Ilinden 3.00pm

2nd gde Ku-ring-gai v Sutherland Shire 1.00pm

3rd gde Sutherland Shire v Manly-Warringah 11am

DIVISION 2 — FINALS

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

CORRIMAL MEMORIAL PARK, W'GONG

1st gde Bathurst 75 v W'gong Macedonia 3.00pm

2nd gde Gladesville-Hby v Nth Bankstown 1.00pm

3rd gde Penrith or Bathurst v Belmore 11am

BLACKTOWN & DISTRICTS SOCCER FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

The Above Association invites applications for the following positions for the 1985 Soccer Season.

- (1) Director of Coaching
- (2) Coaches for Youth League Teams (Under 13-14-15-16)
- (3) Coaches for Metropolitan Championship teams (Under 11 and 12)

All applications giving full details of the applicants qualifications and experience are to be forwarded to: The Secretary, Blacktown & Districts Soccer Football Association, Post Office Box 549, Blacktown 2148, by October 5, 1984.

If further information is required, contact Mr A. Lobley by telephone on 621 1580.

PARSONS SCORES WINNER

SUTHERLAND advanced to the grand final of the second grade competition defeating arch-rivals Manly Warringah 1-0 in the final at Gabbie Stadium.

Wayne Parsons was the hero for the Sharks when he scored the only goal in the 60th minute.

The first half was evenly contested and perhaps the best chance to break the deadlock fell for Manly in the 43rd minute when a crashing 35 metre free-kick from Dudley Fox scraped the top of the Sutherland crossbar.

Sutherland held a slight advantage during the second half — particularly after they scored.

SUTHERLAND: Birchmore, Foster, Sellar, Burrow, Lerond, Cox, Cashman, Connor, Parsons, Hughes, Tasker.

MANLY: Jones, Scobie, Sestanovich, Sergeant, Lynch, Davison, Paul Vale (Woodward 52), Jeurgens, Peter Vale, Ethrington, Fox.

ROCKDALE'S FIVE DESTROY MANLY

BY BRAD EARL

FIVE Rockdale Ilinden players got amongst the goals in the NSW State League preliminary final victory over Manly Warringah at Gabbie Stadium.

Jimmy Ristevski (18th minute), Terry Jones (26th), Darren Wilson (44th), Ross Brown (61st) and Kenny Slavski (76th) scored the goals that put Rockdale through to the State League Grand Final against Inter Monaro at Marconi next Sunday.

However, it wasn't as clear-cut as the scoreline of 5-2 indicates.

Manly were ahead 2-1 in the first half, and after Rockdale held a 3-2 half-time lead, Manly dominated the early part of the second period.

But that commitment to attack proved to be Manly's downfall when Rockdale went to 4-2 in the 61st minute.

Midfielder Vince Nastevski made a strong breakaway down the right sideline and his cross was ruled to have been handled

by Manly sweeper Roy Jones. Brown scored from the penalty spot.

Simon Panes displayed great finishing for Manly's goals in the 16th and 20th minutes, both from Rob Stuart crosses from the left wing.

But it was Panes who missed good chances in the second half that could have swung things Manly's way.

When Rockdale's Australian Youth team candidate Kenny Slavski scored directly from a free-kick in the 76th minute, it was all over bar the shouting.

Rockdale goalkeeper Nicky Kotsosambos made two great saves in a display that drew praise from his coach Ilya Takac — first denying Stuart in the 35th minute and then right on full-time, tipping a header

by John Dick over the bar.

For Rockdale, no-one did better than central midfielder Terry Jones, who shone as a striker in recent seasons with Melita and Riverwood. Jones didn't shirk his defensive duties in the midfield and showed much more determination than his Manly counterparts.

For Manly, Stuart was always dangerous up front, stopper John Dick gave Ross Brown little room, and 16-year-old Wayne Pierce put in a gutsy display at right-back.

Now Rockdale go into the Grand Final hoping to reverse the semi-final result in which Monaro won 2-1.

"This season we've won once and Monaro have won twice, and all have been by the odd goal," Takac said.

"We always try to play football that will please the paying customers, and that has also got us the results this season."

Rockdale's experienced full-back Paul Degney said that Rockdale must go on the offensive against Monaro.

"Monaro don't play brilliantly but they don't make mistakes," said Degney, who is on loan from Marconi.

Vic Fernandez, the Mo-



□ **TERRY JONES**, Rockdale's star midfielder, takes a tumble against Manly's Bobby Pagano. PHOTO: DAVID JELLINGS

naro coach, said that the team that makes the least mistakes will win the Grand Final.

"We play a controlled game, whereas Rockdale

seemed to lose concentration in the semi-final when decisions went against them," Fernandez said.

ROCKDALE: Kotsosambos; Degney, G.Wilson,

Pilovski, D.Wilson; Nastevski, Jones, Slavski (Trajanovski 82); Ristevski, Brown, Karanfilovski (Yousiph 79).

MANLY: Conradi;

Pierce, S.Dick, Jones, J.Dick; Leak, Steven, Barker (Holloway 74); Pagano, Panes, Stuart.

REFEREE: M. Loupis. CROWD: 402.

STATE LEAGUE 1st DIVISION — FINALS

Rockdale Ilinden v Manly Warringah 5-2 1st
Manly Warringah v Sutherland Shire 0-1 2nd
Manly Warringah v Polonia 4-2p 3rd

2nd DIVISION — SEMI-FINALS

Fairy Meadow v Bathurst '75 0-1 1st
Blacktown United v Gl'ville Hornsby 0-2 2nd
Penrith United v Bathurst '75 3-3 3rd
Belmore v Blacktown United 3-2 3rd
*denotes — replay — Wednesday 26/9/84 Francis Park 8pm

INTER URBAN 4th DIVISION — SEMI-FINALS

Concord Jun v Colo Colo 2-1 1st
Welcome Spts v Castle Hill 2-0 1st

MONARO vs ILINDEN

NSW GRAND FINAL

**SUNDAY KICK-OFF 3PM
SEPTEMBER 30
MARCONI STADIUM**



□ **WALTER VALERI** — INTER-MONARO



□ **ROCKDALE ILINDEN'S GRAND FINAL TEAM**



□ **TONY BRENNAN** — INTER-MONARO



□ **BAS GIAMPAOLO** — INTER-MONARO



TOP ACTION SOCCER



SOCCER AROUND AUSTRALIA

HAPPY ENDING FOR FAIRY MEADOW

BY PHIL MURPHY

A CROWD of 3,900 watched Fairy Meadow clinch promotion to the State League next season with a dramatic 3-2 win over neighbours Wollongong Macedonia.

The teams went in to the last premiership round locked together and with everything hinging on the result.

Police Boys' Oval was packed well before the kick-off but no-one could have forecast the drama to follow.

Twice Fairy Meadow went ahead through Bill Sheridan and Jock Morlando but twice Wollongong pulled back as play swung from end to end.

Paul Giraldo and Barney King scored Wollongong's goals, King equalising with five minutes to go.

Just when it seemed to NSW Federation would benefit from a play-off, Fairy Meadow grabbed the winner in the last minute.

Left full-back Tony Charnock moved up to shoot from 30 metres and the ball deflected off the leg of Wollongong midfielder Phil

Mowbray into the net.

When referee Graham Warne blew full-time, Fairy Meadow supporters invaded the field to carry their players off.

For Fairy Meadow it was their finest moment, but for Wollongong it was the third time they had missed promotion after going to the last game of the season.

Fairy Meadow coach Mike Johnson paid tribute to opposite number John Bingham, his players and the Wollongong club.

"I really feel for them because I know how hard they have worked over seven years to win a place in the State League," Johnson said.

"They gave us a tough battle all year and it is really a tragedy two teams can't go up this season."

Johnson, who retired completely from Soccer after the game, said Fairy

Meadow will do well in the higher league because they have the determination and ambition.

"I feel as if I have really achieved something here because the people involved with the club put so much into the game themselves," Johnson said.

Club secretary Walter Chichkan said the committee hope to retain most of the players but will be on the lookout for some new faces.

"We realise we have to have a stronger squad but won't be rushing into things," he said.

"One or two of the present side have indicated they will retire now, but Mick Richardson has said that for the last three seasons and has kept coming back."

Richardson has been the team's most consistent player this season, playing

as well as ever in midfield.

Fairy Meadow's promotion was a real success story for Tony Charnock.

Five weeks before the end of the season, Charnock hadn't played Soccer because of his university studies.

When the club lost Mark Sweeney, Ian Drain and Richard Pic in quick succession from their defence, they sent out an "SOS" to Charnock.

He was still on their books after being loaned out to Coniston and Corimal the previous two seasons.

After just two training sessions, Charnock went straight in to first grade in the vital away match against Dee Why and had a blinder.

To cap it all off, he was responsible for the winning goal against Wollongong Macedonia.

IAN PARKER (left), of Caledonians, races past University captain Dave Forshaw. Parker scored four goals in his side's final league match of the season to win the goalscoring award. He was top scorer last season, also with 18 goals.

PHOTO: RALPH DYMOND



PARKER LEADS TASSIE GOALS

BY 'VAN DIEMEN'

IAN PARKER is the top scorer in Tasmania's Cadbury State League after scoring four goals in Caledonians' 7-4 win over Metro-Claremont.

Metro led 4-2 at one stage, but a devastating three-goal blitz by Parker in the second half saw Calies hit the lead and run out comfortable winners in its final league match of the season.

Brett Murtagh, with two goals, and Michael Goldsmith were the remaining scorers for Caledonians.

John McIntyre hit a hat-trick for Metro while Paul Fone scored the fourth goal with a superb overhead scissors kick.

Parker's nearest rival, Rapid's Billy Kirkpatrick,

scored his side's solitary goal in the 1-0 win over Olympia-WPL.

In the intra-state match in Devonport, the Northern State League defeated Cadbury State League selection 2-1.

The Southerners, coached by Ken Morton, were stuck an early blow when midfielder Steve Kannegiesser was injured and had to be replaced by Chester Willcock.

Morton played with five midfielders and the scheme was upset as Willcock is an or-

thodox full-back and was unable to contain the North's Brian Davidson.

Davidson scored the opening goal after 24 minutes. Sawdon's shot deflected off the hapless Di Martino and rolled into Davidson's path and he struck it past Craven.

Terry Banagan equalised five minutes before the interval when goalkeeper Smith failed to hold Parker's fierce drive but Northern coach Joe McGrory, coming on as substitute with 10 minutes remaining, hit home the winner in the 86th minute when Craven dropped Farrell's corner.

Tasmanian coach David Crosson watched the match and will select a State side to play Frank Arok's national team in Hobart on October 10.

Final Cadbury State League standings:

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Juve	21	16	2	3	52	22	34
Rapid	21	13	2	6	51	27	28
Uni	21	12	2	7	42	33	26
Oly-WPL	21	9	5	7	42	33	23
Calies	21	10	2	9	53	50	22
Metro	21	4	3	14	18	40	11
Croatia	21	4	3	14	18	40	11
Phoenix	21	3	2	16	13	59	8

"Michael The Tailor" \$250

Goalscoring Award:
18 — I. Parker (Calies).
16 — W. Kirkpatrick (Rapid).
12 — P. Sherman (Oly).
11 — R. Leszczynski, P. Crowther (Uni).
10 — K. Morton (Juventus).
9 — T. Banagan (Calies).

ARROWS TARGET ALBURY

BY FRANK FINLAY

CANBERRA ARROWS will visit Albury on October 13 for a challenge match against Albury-Wodonga.

Bill Graham, the NSW Lotto area manager and match organiser, has received acceptance from Arrow's coach Doug Collins.

Allan Lovell, NSW Lotto general manager, is gratified to see that the game is going ahead.

Mr Graham, who is vice-president of Albury City Soccer Club, said that his club's star players Nick Andronicos, Dirk Grutzmacher, Peter Veneris and George Galanakis will be in the team.

Other leading players drawn from both sides of the border will be chosen to face the Arrows.

Top players of Border Soccer Club from the VSF Fourth Division have been asked to play.

Neal Endacott, former NSL player with Newcastle United, and Steve Bland are from the Border club.

Others being approached are Myrtleford's Lon Capparelli, Chris Ricketts and Sam Mirt, also Paul Millynn and Richard Herzina (Wodonga Diamonds), Arthur Peters, Colin Arnolds and Wayne Fraser (Lavington), Geoff Hubanic (West Wodonga) and Harry Wilhelm (Twin City Wanderers).

Joe Martinez of Albury City, assistant coach of the Riverina team to play the National Youth team, will manage the team.

THISTLES BIG WIN

BY GREG RUSSELL

GRANGE THISTLE scored the biggest finals win in years when they trounced Acacia Ridge 4-0 in the Queensland Premier League knockout semi-final at Perry Park.

The win over the Ridge was a timely boost for the Tangerines, who had struggled to score goals in the final rounds of fixtures. But star striker Tony Bailey, who had been going through a goal drought, hit form at the right time and netted a hat-trick inside the final 10 minutes to boost Thistle's hopes of winning the flag.

But it was talented midfielder Steve Dolan who made the initial and match-winning breakthrough for Thistle.

Dolan, the most skilful non-National League player in Brisbane, carried the ball more than 30 metres before picking his spot and beating Ridge keeper Brett Beves minutes after half-time.

The goal broke what was developing into a dull deadlock between the two teams.

Although the Ridge tried valiantly to get back into the game, with the one goal lead, Thistle never looked like being matched and became stronger as the match continued.

Bailey, who had beaten a shin injury and a bout of 'flu to take his place in the Thistle side for the semi, netted his first two after good work down the left by his team-mates.

But his third attempt, in the final minute, was a brilliant piece of skill.

A speculative lob was played into the penalty box by Grange full-back Gordon Buchanan and, seeing a half-chance, Bailey ran onto the ball to volley it with the outside of his foot into the top corner of the net.

FORMER Brisbane Lions National League goalkeeper Brett Beves won the first player award of the Queensland season.

Beves, the former St George and Australian Youth team reserve keeper, took out the "COURIER-MAIL" Best and Fairest award.

Beves, 22, has been playing this season with Premier League club Acacia Ridge on loan from Lions after failing to "hit it off" with former Lions coach Harry Noon at the start of this season.

Beves took the award in a cliffhanger from Taringa Rovers full-back Mick Savage. Beves collected 25 points over the season, one ahead of Savage with veteran Ipswich United and former Lions striker Ron Millman on 22.

Beves clinched the award with a three-point performance for the Ridge in their final game against Olympic. Beves saved a penalty of Billy Williamson which swung the game Ridge's way.

Beves, a salesman for the Bingo Shop, said the award was his first lucky break in Soccer.

"I have always played the bridesmaid in my Soccer life," he said.

Beves was understudy to another Queenslander, Glenn Ahearn, in the Australian Youth team which toured Indonesia, Hong Kong and Taiwan in 1981.

He came to Lions in 1981 and was promoted to the club's NSL team last year when Nigel Lownds broke a finger.

Beves now must be rated a front-runner for the Queensland Rothmans Medal award, as the Courier winner is traditionally favoured to take the Best and Fairest medal.

But it could be the closest Medal announcement in years, with any one of six players rated a chance.

Others include Mount Gravatt's Martin Kirsopp, Ipswich's Ron Millman, North Star's Jim Hermiston, Easts' Mark Brusasco, Thistle's Steve Dolan and Olympic's Mick Cernaka. The award will be announced on October 5.

QUEENSLAND'S restructured leagues have proved to be an outstanding success this season.

And Queensland Soccer Federation officials have even ventured as far to say the recently completed season was "the best in five years".

The results vindicated the controversial decision made last year by the QSF restructuring committee, which completely reshuffled every division within the Federation.

The move caused one of the biggest furores in Queensland Soccer in years and the haggling that following even resulted in the shock resignation of president Ian Brusasco, although he later rescinded that decision.

But even some of the restructurings' most ardent critics have conceded most good has come from the changes.

"The restructuring gave the clubs the motive to work hard this year and local Soccer is now on the threshold of getting right back into it," Brusasco said.

"Every trophy and title has gone to the wire. No team was ever sure of beating the other throughout the whole season."

"I felt sorry for any club getting relegated because no-one deserved it," Brusasco said.

And although Brusasco has always been against the NSL clubs' second teams playing the top local competition, he had encouraging words for the

Lions Intermediate Leaguers, who will return to the Premier

League next season after their shock axing from the competition in last year's restructuring.

"If Lions were good enough to win through the system of promotion and relegation to regain their Premier League spot then congratulations to them," he said.

Brusasco said Queensland Soccer now had to capitalise on the success of this season and carry the restructuring further.

"We must begin to settle the code and develop traditions.

"There has to be more representative football for players and we must ensure all clubs continue to meet the requirements of the criteria, particularly in relation to facilities," he said.

ONE of Queensland's true Soccer stalwarts, Ipswich's Reg Erskine, has retired.

Reg, 76, has been writing Soccer since he penned a report on a schoolboys match in 1925.

Besides being the State's premier Soccer historian, Reg also served as Cairns Soccer Association secretary, refereed for many years and was a State selector from the early 1940s until 1957.

His book, a history of Ipswich Soccer, is a brilliant document tracing the development of the code in the West Moreton from its beginning in 1886.

On his retirement, Reg recalled his early days as a Soccer scribe.

"I was paid a penny a line," he said.



MARK BRUSASCO: Rothmans chance.

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NOT SO TOUGH IN ITALY

FOOTBALL in Italy is supposed to be pretty tough and it has been suggested that British stars, now playing there, will get rough treatment from the Italian players.

Jimmy Greaves, former England "great," does not agree.

Says Jimmy: "In Italy, players in the middle of the park get all the freedom they want. Opponents

don't even tackle you until you get near goal. It's only up front that you expect to get kicked.

"That's why Ray Wilkins will do well with A.C. Milan. He's a tremendous passer

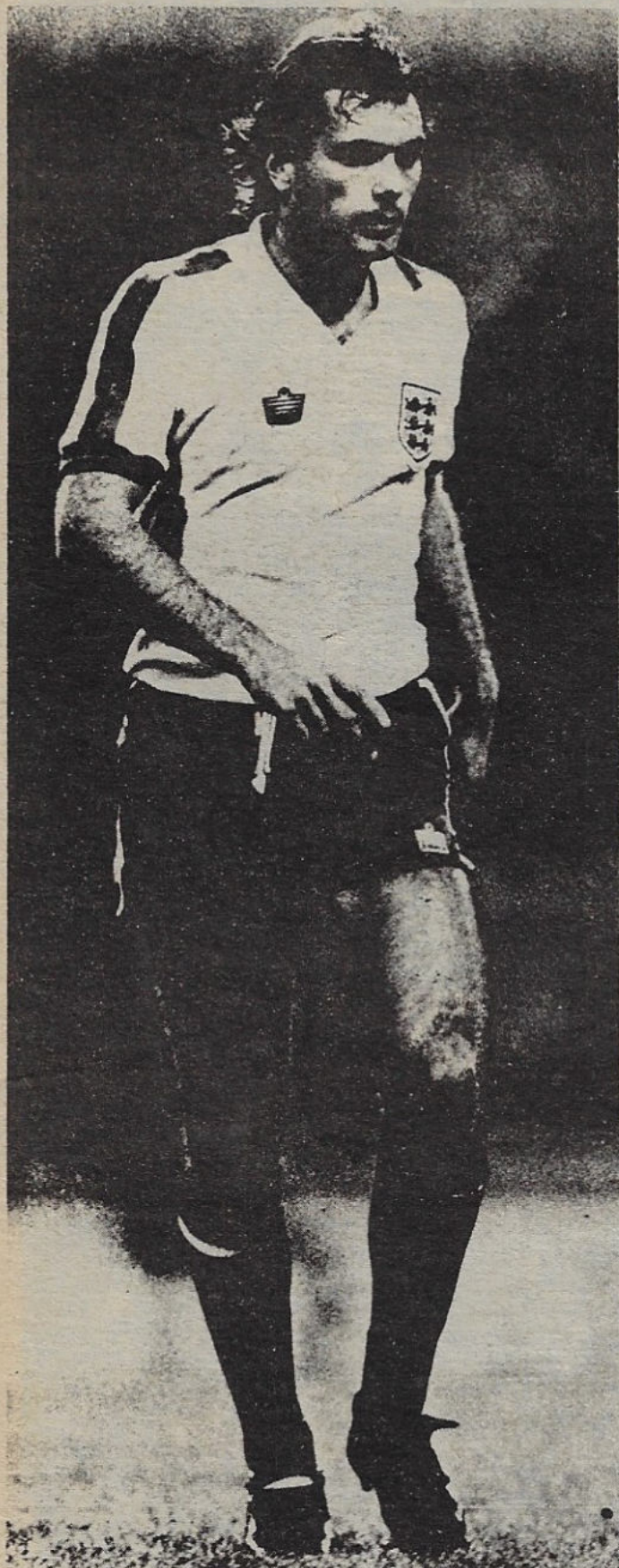
of the ball and he won't have to go too far forward to cause havoc."

Liam Brady, of course, has also done well in the Italian first division... and he confines most of his magic to the midfield.

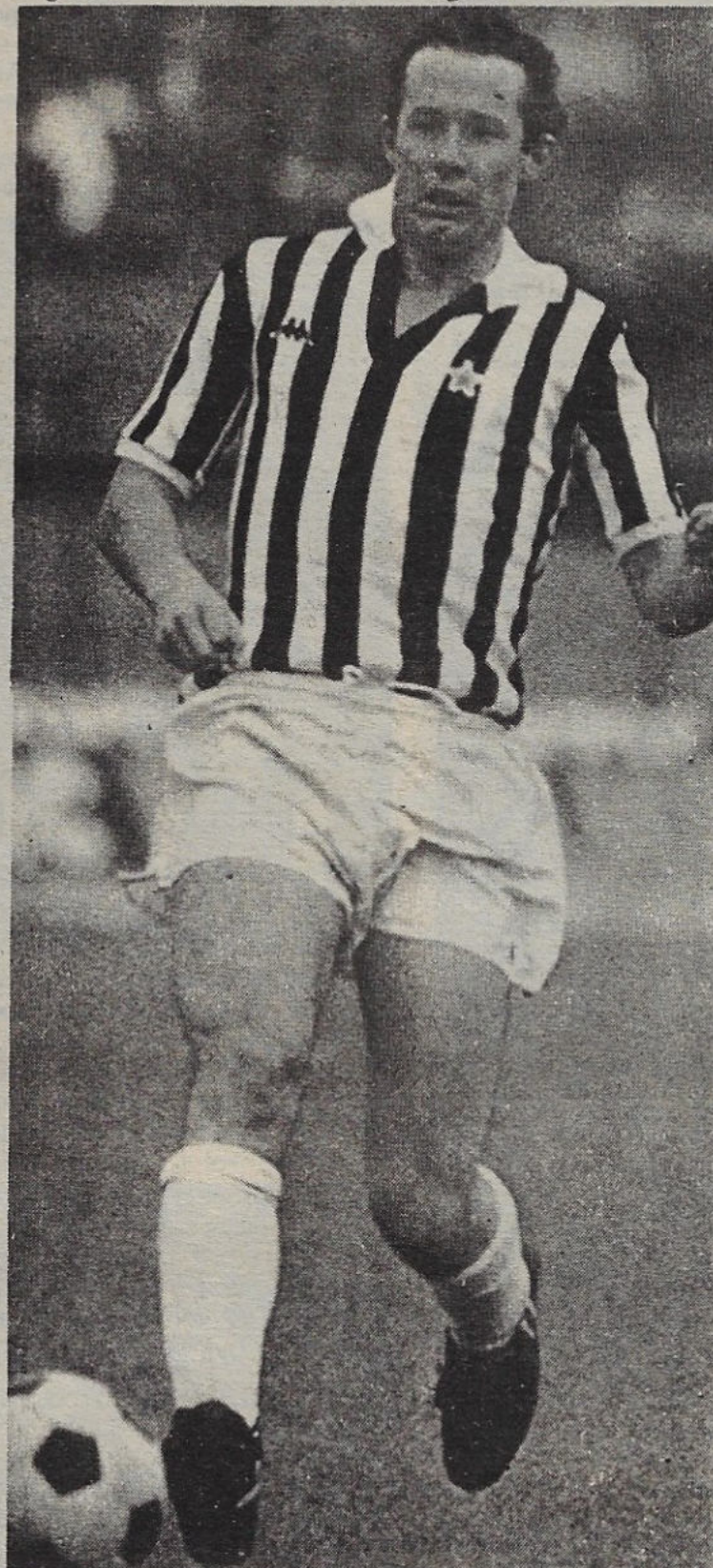
Jimmy Greaves has first-hand knowledge of what goes on in Italian football.

He was one of the first Englishmen to be transferred there when he had a brief but stormy few months playing for AC Milan.

He couldn't settle, mainly because he found the discipline, not the tackling, too tough to take.



□ RAY WILKINS



□ LIAM BRADY

FARRINGTON MAKES MARK

MARK FARRINGTON of Norwich City was supposed to be too hot to handle last season because he was over-aggressive.

He even frightened team mates at training and had been known to take an early shower after rough practice matches.

So it was with some trepidation that Norwich boss Ken Brown promoted Farrington to the first team as deputy for injured Mike Channon against West Brom.

Farrington scored a goal and made another and did enough to suggest he'll be offered a new contract by Norwich.

"Mike Channon has helped me a lot," he said.

Farrington arrived at Norwich on a free transfer from Everton but he was nearly sacked a few months ago because of his bad disciplinary record.



MICK CHANNON

LEICESTER NOT SO GREEN!

JOCK WALLACE, Rangers boss, is quite a character — as several Aussies discovered when he and his team toured here a few months ago.

He showed his sense of humour when Leicester City played a friendly match at Ibrox Stadium recently.

Wallace requested Leicester to wear green jerseys — to remind Rangers players of the old enemy Celtic and give them more motivation to win.

Leicester boss Gordon Milne refused Jock's request.

JOE HARVEY STILL BUSY

AT 66, after a lifetime in football, most people would be ready to enjoy a quiet retirement but not the old Newcastle United warhorse, Joe Harvey.

Joe is keeping himself busy as assistant manager to Jackie Charlton at the Newcastle club he used to skipper.

It is 39 years since Harvey joined Newcastle from Bradford City and became part of a magnificent side which won the F.A. Cup three times in five years.

Among the super players at Newcastle in those days were Jackie Milburn, Bobby Mitchell, Len Shackleton, Ernie Taylor, George Robledo, and Jack Fairbrother.

Harvey filled jobs with Newcastle as captain,

coach, manager, chief scout and now assistant-manager.

He looks forward to a good season with the 1984-85 Newcastle United but says: "The retirement of Kevin Keegan cost us one of the world's greatest players."

WHO needs supporters?

Evidently not fourth division club Aldershot. They've banned their Supporters' Club from their ground.

SCOTS NEVER LOSE

N O B O D Y should have been surprised when Yugoslavia went down heavily to Scotland in the international at Hampden Park.

In five matches, played in five different countries, the Scots had never lost to Yugoslavia.

They'd played in Yugoslavia, Scotland, Sweden, Brazil and West Germany for four drawn games and a win for Scotland.

It's two wins for Scotland now.

SACK MARINER!

IN his column in the "DAILY STAR" Denis Law has called for England to sack Paul Mariner.

"Mariner just doesn't impress me as an international footballer," writes Law.

He goes on: "England hasn't had a genuine striker since the great days of Jimmy Greaves or maybe Geoff Hurst. Mariner has never filled the bill — and the facts prove it."

Law then states that Greaves scored 44 goals in 57 matches for England but Mariner has scored only 14 in 33 games.

"Mariner should go. His strength at club level is undeniable, but on the international arena, he seems lost," adds Law.

METAPHORS MIXED

SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY boss Howard Wilkinson appears keen to give lessons on how to fracture the English language.

Here are two of his recent comments:

● "We had them buried but almost let them off the hook."

● "We have to learn how to screw the coffin lid down when we have the opposition on the ropes."



CANBERRA KIDS



HEARTY congratulations to Belnorth A team, runners-up in ACT U13 Division 1 this season. The boys only lost three games in the season. The coaches were V. Markegic and L. Atkins and the manager N. Vanzetti. From left: Mark Markegic, Robert McPherson, Mitchell Canas, Louis Alarcon, Steven Vangetti, Troy Atkins, Mark Berresford, Leo Mastoris, Damiam Ross, Trevor Murdoeh, Craig Patrick, Paul Stoodley. With ball: Guy Kinnell. Absent: Craig Morphy.

SMITHFIELD SPURS ON



BACK ROW (from left): manager Pat McGavigan, Gary Byron, Jason O'Disho, Shane May, Michael Karanakolas, Chris Tate, Paul Clark, coach Terry Flynn.
FRONT ROW: Robert Pound, Jason Ciantar, Mathew Gallagher, Reece Bratton, Troy Flynn.

SMITHFIELD HOTSPURS U8 Div 1 team has only been on the receiving end on three competition occasions since they started out as Under 6s in 1982.

Last season the boys did extremely well to win the minor and major premier-ships in their Southern District Association competition.

They only lost once during the season and pulled off the U7 KO Consolation Cup as well.

This year things have carried on in very much the same vein.

The young Spurs won U8 Div 1, defeating Fairfield Police Boys 3-0 in the final and Lansvale 2-1 in the grand final.

Lansvale won the semi-final on a penalty shootout

in extra time. Two competition games were lost to Fairfield Police Boys and Lansvale.

During the season the Smithfield boys won the inaugural Hills Hawks Soccer Tournament against opposition that came from clubs in Liverpool, Fairfield, Blacktown, Castle Hill and as far away as Dee Why.

Smithfield accounted for Blacktown City 3-0 in the

final.

Six players of the U8 team started out as tiny tots in U6.

These are Shane May, Chris Tate, Robert Pound, Michael McGavigan, Reece Bratton and Troy Flynn.

The team has been coached by Terry Flynn and managed by Pat McGavigan.

APIA JUNIOR SOCCER CLUB YOUTH LEAGUE TRIALS

- Will be held at Timberell Park, Henly Marine Drive, Five Dock.
- Tuesday October 16 U13 & U14
- Thursday October 18 U15 & U16
- Tuesday October 23 U13 & U14
- Thursday October 25 U15 & U16
- COMMENCING 5.30 PM - 7 PM
- Tuesday October 30 U13 & U14
- Thursday November 1 U15 & U16
- Tuesday November 6 U13 & U14
- Thursday November 8 U15 & U16
- COMMENCING 6 PM - 7.30 PM
- For all inquiries Phone Tony Raciti on 798 4122 (home) or 797 8861 (bus.)

KEITH GILMOUR JS



MELITA U16s MISS OUT

MELITA U16 team was all set for an enjoyable and educational tour to Tasmania, covering the period September 28 / October 3.

The tour was to be the reward for a successful year. The players were to appear in a Launceston tournament and also gain knowledge of both Northern Tasmania and Hobart.

After all arrangements had been set up, a section of the junior club vetoed the tour.

The grounds for their action were ostensibly over an indemnity from the parents to the club over possible injuries.

The unhappy part of the entire affair was that this aspect had already been dealt with by the tour organisers. Was all lost though jealousy or a lack of understanding of the form?

The team had been set up on legal advice. In the long run it was the boys who suffered from an ill-advised action.

NORTHERN TEAMS MUST JOIN IN NSW TITLES

THE NSW Championship contested between the representative or leading teams of Sydney, Western NSW, Southern NSW and Riverina produce the leading teams in the various junior grades from U10 to U16.

Gradually over the years the quality of country representative teams has improved.

This year's U13 and U16 titles were held earlier this month at Parklea.

There remains a big gap between the best Sydney and many country teams.

It seems there should be a way in which the country youth players obtain experience.

The best Sydney teams

play a superior brand of football.

Better opposition for Sydney can only come from Northern NSW, where a representative or top Hunter Valley team for example would be of best available quality.

We believe NSW Amateur officials are looking at such a proposal.

It deserves every encouragement and indeed should in the medium term

extend much further.

The enclosed division between Southern and Northern NSW would be laughable if it was not a positive fact of life.

It will continue to inhibit the growth of Soccer football until junior and senior people wake up

It is only an administrative barrier and with sensible management can be handled without hurting Sydney or Newcastle.



SOMEHOW in production we ended up with a halo over one St George player's head. It must have been prophetic as the Saints went on to win the State and Metropolitan Championships.

ST GEORGE U13: Grant Moffitt, Hassan Khamis, Stephane Jee, Jason Smith, Sam Sotiriau, Cameron Watson, Tony Puntigan, John Kakakios, Ivan Totarovic, Demetrius Joannoy, Louie Dimitropoulos, Chris Eliades, Geoff Havenaar, Heath Goldstein.



PARRAMATTA MELITA EAGLES U13 (runners-up): Walter Ardone, Tony Bojkovic, Philip Budin, Daniel Cerjak, Greg Dickenson, Jason Falzon, Jeff Gregson, Jason Glover, Gordon Kovacs, Adam Letherbarrow, Justin Morgan, Paul Rago, Tony Rizzotto, Paul Wroblewski, Martin Reilly, Stephen Badrov.



CHRISTIAN BROTHERS BURWOOD's Johnny Romeo watches as his goalkeeper John Simovic clears his line.



□ GRANVILLE U13: D. Reeves, G. Adams, A. Lindley, D. Crittenden, A. Charlowood, R. Chadwick, S. Storgate, K. Rooney, C. Edwards, M. Bingley, D. Seniuk, N. Riley, R. Cook, R. Chapman.



□ SOUTHERN NSW U13 (Country champions — represented by Macarthur Assn): Paul Taylor, David Lowe, Terry Diomis, Graham Doig, Cameron James, Nathan Kowalen Bo, Paul Hernandez, Adam Cryer, Peter Preston, Shane Moore, Pat Duffy, Mark Duke, Darion Lambert, John Weston, Anthony Denison, Alistair McNaughton, John Harrison.



□ WESTERN NSW U13: Damien Bennett, Wayne Brand, Tony Clancy, Graham Drew, Stephen Geyer, Nigel Henry, Scott Mutton, Todd Yates, Matthew Sweetnam, Tony Wilson, Jim McLaren, Duncan Reeves, Garen Smith, Brett Brookfield, Peter Amiet.



□ RIVERINA U13: David Spokes, Shaun Morse, Ray Newman, Stephen Brunec, Graham Piers, Arn Rowland, Stephen McDowell, Carl McCann, Mark Rockow, Craig Schreiber, Jason Barlow, George Develle, Andrew Blake, Tony O'Flynn, Marco Tesmer.



□ MARCONI U16 (State and Metropolitan champions): Joe Micalef, Robert Giansante, John Kone, Ken Baker, Robert Calderan, Stephen Cardillo, George Bitmamoo, Gino Luccitti, Wayne Levy, Darren Chambers, Max Ferretti, Robert Fontana, Joe Rizzo, Paul Trzeciński.



□ SYDNEY OLYMPIC U16 (runners-up): Frank Bragias, Chris Siatras, Steve Chilas, Mick Rodopolous, Theo Kotsias, David Harris, Theo Andromedas, Con Roubis, Nico Genaris, Michael Beris, Con Adams, Gus Petratos, Steve Kyriakides, Nick Oustambasidis, Paul Silva, Chris Dimet.



□ ST GEORGE U16: Martin Baxter, Keith Warren, Angelo Rodic, Chris Clarke, Tony Stojic, Chias Kontis, Scott Colerenshaw, Anthony George, Slavko Skender, Theo Paraskevaidis, Steven Austin, Zoeki Gasovski, David Grima, Con Tsiovas, Rodney Williams.



□ WESTERN NSW U16 (Country champions): Phillip Davis, Brad Molenkamp, David Banks, Ron Taylor, Dan O'Brien, Ilija Blazic, Michael Telford, Andrew Pearson, Michael Jones, Andrew Horcicka, David Cotric, Darren Lincoln, Christopher Smith, David Isbester, Tony Mutton, Stephen Burns, Michael Cannon.



□ RIVERINA U16: Tim Barter, Warren Brown, Rod Cecchini, Trevor Chapman, Wayne Collins, Sean Donnelly, Mark Easdown, Russel McCann, Patrick O'Brien, Geoff Bortolin, Mathew Raven, Barry Smith, David Tolley, John Torkler, Peter Zardo, Rodney Zuccato, Darren McGann.



□ SOUTHERN NSW U16 (represented by Southern Tablelands): Sam Reid, Sean Williams, Greg Murdoch, Alan Lofts, Stuart Brisbane, Garry Leslie, Michael Angelosante, David Shilling, Craig Kellar, Nicholas Lorkovic, Troy Cook, Carl Wecker, Michael Collings.

NSW CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS

SECOND ROUND
Played Sunday September 23:
U 8: North Rocks 2 Nepean 0, Earlwood 2 Bankstown 1.

U 9: Merrylands 3 Penrith 0, Southern Dists 2 Sutherland 1, Blacktown Pioneers 4 Wagga Police Boys 0, North Epping Rangers 0 Wakehurst 0, Bankstown 1 APIA 0.

U10: Winston Hills 2 Penrith RSL 1, Southern Dists 2 Sutherland 0, St Andrews 4 Wakehurst 3, St George 8 Wollongong Olympic 1, Blacktown United 2 Ku-ring-gai 0, APIA 2 Bankstown 0.

U11: North Rocks 2 Penrith RSL 1, Southern Dists 2 Sutherland 1, Beecroft 2 Beacon Hill 1, Dapto 2 St George 1, Blacktown Spurs 1 Lindfield 0, Croatia 4 Macarthur 3.

U12: Baulkham Hills 3 Penrith RSL 2, Southern Dists 3 Sutherland 0, Wakehurst 2 Gladesville United 1, St George 9 Port Kembla 0, Blacktown United 1 Hornsby Heights 0, Bankstown 2 APIA 0.

U13: Luddenham Croatia 6 Kellyville 1, Sutherland 3 Southern Dists 1, Gladesville RSL 2 Manly Vale 1, Lake Heights 3 St George 1, St Ives 1 Blacktown United 0, Macarthur 2 Earlwood 1.

U14: Hills Independent 5 St Joseph Sheehan 0, Hanwood 2 Sutherland 0, Carlingford Redbacks 1 Wakehurst 0, Corral 5 MBK United 1, Hornsby Heights 3 Emerton Rovers 1, Bankstown 1 Earlwood 0.

U15: Penrith RSL 2 Kellyville 1, Sutherland 2 Yoogali 2, Epping YMCA 4 Wakehurst 2, Port Kembla 2 St George 1, Blacktown 4 Hornsby RSL 0, Bankstown 3 Canterbury 2.

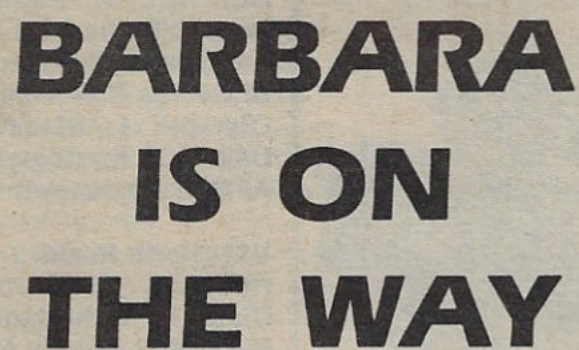
U16: North Rocks 2 Nepean 1, Southern Dists 1 Sutherland 0, West Penrith Hills 2 Manly 1, Balgownie 3 St George 1, Wilhelmina 2 Greenwich 0, Bankstown 3 Concord 1.

U17: Sutherland 3 Southern Dists 2, Warilla Wanderers 2 St George 1, Canterbury 3 Bankstown 1.

U18: Southern Dists 5 Sutherland 4, North Epping Rangers 4 Manly 1, Ku-ring-gai 1 Blacktown United 0, Bankstown 2 APIA 0.

U21: Sutherland 3 Southern Dists 1, Manly 3 Beecroft 1, Ku-ring-gai 2 Blacktown 1, Marrickville 2 Bankstown 1.

ALL-AGE: Rydalmere 4 Nepean 1, Sylvania 1 Southern Dists 1, Epping YMCA 4 Manly 2, St George 4 Lavington 0, Hornsby Heights 2 Blacktown 2, Lakemba 3 Bankstown 2.
(Association shown where club names unavailable).



OTHER HOBBIES: Cricket, Basketball, Volleyball.

AMERICAN TOUR

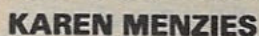
A SUCCESS

WOMEN'S SOCCER

AUSTRALIAN
SOCCER
WEEKLY



They are: Yvonne Errington, Samantha Drew and Tania Dyer of the Nthn Territory, Lisa Rader of Tasmania, Rhonda Withers of NSW, Nicole Holding of Victoria and Johanna Bremert of Sth Australia.



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PAOLO ROSSI STARS IN EUROPEAN CUP

DESPITE the huge influx of big-name foreign players, Paolo Rossi is determined to prove to Italian spectators that home talent can match the best of the imports.

Rossi got off on the right foot in the first round first leg match in the European Cup.

Rossi grabbed a hat trick as the Turin team won 4-0 in Finland against Ilves Tampere. The other goal went to import Michel Platini with a penalty kick.

Other Italian giants did not get off to such a good start. A.S. Roma struggled for a 1-0 home win against Steaua of Bucharest in the Cup Winners Cup and Fiorentina won by a similar margin when they played Fenerbahce in Istanbul in the UEFA Cup.

The big two of English football, Liverpool and Manchester United, each had encouraging wins.

United, playing in the UEFA Cup, had no trouble winning 3-0 against Hungary's Raba Eto Gyor at

Liverpool, a margin which should allow the Englishmen to coast through to the second leg.

Liverpool, facing a more difficult match, were well pleased with their 1-0 victory in Poland against Lech Poznan.

The only goal in this European Cup tie was scored by Scottish midfielder John Wark.

Lech Poznan could consider themselves unlucky not to have scored in the second half when, first Jozef Adamiec and then Dariusz Kofnut, hit the

Liverpool woodwork with goalkeeper Bruce Grobelaar beaten.

One of the most interesting games in the European Cup was in Belgrade where a hat trick from Ranko Janjanin saved Red Star who, at one stage, were losing 2-0 to Portugal's Benfica.

But the 3-2 scoreline probably gave Benfica more heart for the return leg than Red Star.

The second leg games in all three European competitions will be played on October 2, 3 and 4.



PAOLO ROSSI

MARACANA IS SHRINKING!

BRAZIL's famous Maracana Stadium in Rio de Janeiro is being reduced in size as part of a massive facelift for the ground.

About 20,000 seats will be removed and capacity will be limited to 128,000.

There is much more work to be done on the stadium which has deteriorated seriously in the

past few years.

Trouble is, there is a desperate shortage of money in Brazil and it is not known who could finance all the necessary repairs to Maracana.

ARGENTINA BECKONS MENOTTI

CESAR LUIS MENOTTI is tipped to take over once again as Argentina's national team coach.

Menotti is out of a job at the moment. And Argentina couldn't win in three successive international

matches. Present coach Carlos Bilardo could be given the sack.

TIGANA IN TROUBLE

FRANCE's Jean Tigana, star of the European Championship victory over Spain in Paris, has been suspended indefinitely by his club, Bordeaux.

Tigana complained bitterly when he heard new signing, Portugal's Chalana, would be paid much more than him.

Now Tigana claims he is injured, so the club has suspended him.

His main offence appears to be... asking for more money!



W. GERMANY

Bremen v Mannheim	1-1
Bielefeld v Dueseldorf	1-1
Karlsruhe v Hamburg	1-1
Leverkusen v M'gladbach	3-2
Uerdingen v Stuttgart	3-2
Bayern v Cologne	2-0
K'lautern v Schalke	2-2
Brunswick v Ein F'furt	5-0
Dortmund v Bochum	3-0

	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Bayern	6	0	0	16	5	12
Bremen	3	1	1	13	8	7
M'gladbach	3	1	1	13	10	7
K'lautern	2	3	0	9	6	7
Uerdingen	3	0	2	11	8	6
Hamburg	1	4	0	5	4	6
Leverkusen	2	2	1	10	10	6

FRANCE

Lille v Lens	2-0
Laval v S'bourg	2-1
Brest v Tours	3-3
Toulouse v Rouen	1-1
Nancy v Sochaux	2-2
Monaco v Racing Club	3-0
Nantes v Auxerre	2-1
Paris SG v Bastia	7-1
Toulon v Metz	0-2
Bordeaux v Marseilles	4-1

FALCAO'S FUTURE

MOST footballers aim to become coaches when they retire but that prospect doesn't thrill Brazil's Falcao.

The AS Roma wizard says he will retire in four years — and cut himself adrift from football.

Falcao's future lies in the unlikely job of clothes designing.

OVERSEAS RESULTS

AUSTRIA

Klagenfurt v Aus Vienna	4-2
Vo Linz v Sp'Drau	0-0
Gak v Ad Wacker	2-0
Rapid Vienna v Favoriten	7-0
Wiener SC v Eisenstadt	1-0
Vienna v St Graz	5-1
Dsv Alpine	Lask 1-1
Salzburg v Innsbruck	2-3

POLAND

Rad Rado v Leg Warsaw	1-1
Z Soznowiec v Go Zabrze	1-1
Ba Gdynia v Go Walbrzycm	2-2
Lks Lodz v Sl Wroclaw	1-0
Pog Szczecin v M Lublin	0-2
Lec Poznan v Gks Katowice	0-0
Ruch Chorzow v Wid Lodz	0-0
Wis Krakow v Lec Gdansk	4-0

SPAIN

Murcia v Malaga	4-0
At Madrid v Sociedad	2-1
Valencia v Betis	0-1
Hercules v Osasuna	1-1
Barcelona v Espanol	1-0
Sporting v Elche	2-0
Sevilla v Re Madrid	1-0
Bilbao v Racing	1-0

	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Barcelona	3	0	0	8	0	6
Sevilla	0	0	0	5	0	4
At Madrid	2	1	0	5	1	5
Betis	2	1	0	2	0	5
Hercules	2	1	0	3	1	5

GREECE

P'naikos v Ofi	2-0
Ap Athens v Paok	1-3
Egaleo v AEK	0-0
Ethnikos v P'chaiki	3-0
Iraklis v O'piakos	0-1
Doxo v Panionios	0-3
Aris v Pierikos	2-0
Larisa v Ap K'marias	3-0

HOLLAND

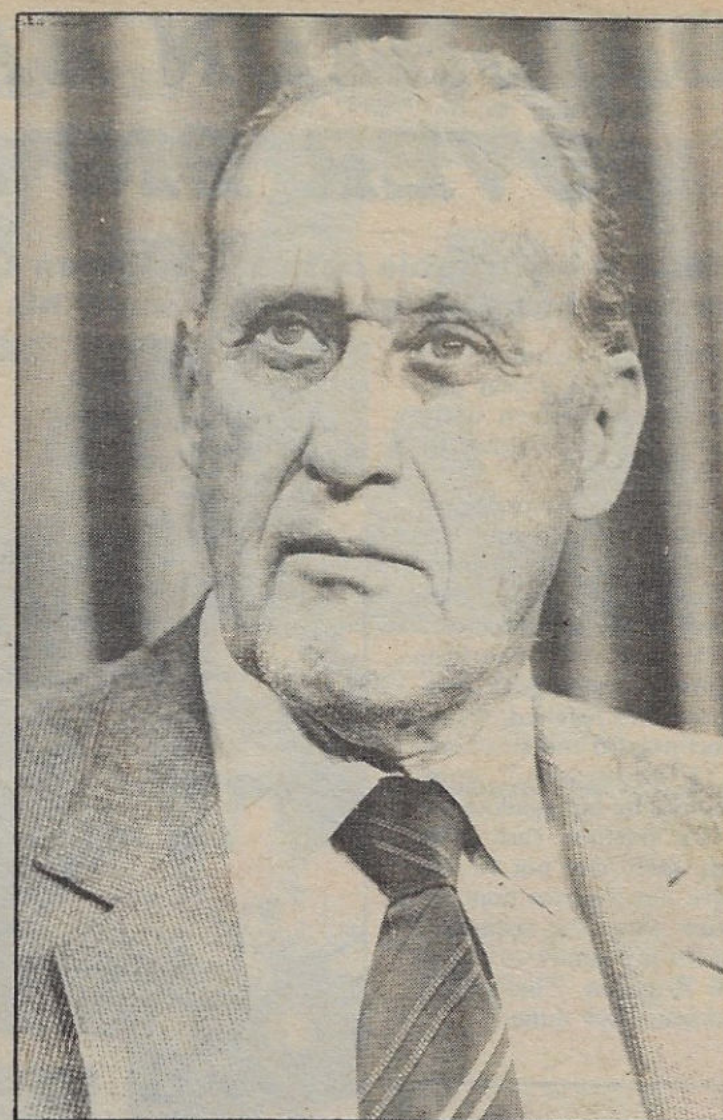
PSV v Volendam	5-0
Haarlem v Roda JC	1-2
Pec Zwolle v Feyenoord	1-5
Maastricht v Groningen	0-3
Nac Breda v Az'67	0-0
Twente v Utrecht	0-2
Sp Rotterdam v Deventer	2-1
Ex Rotterdam v Den Bosch	1-1

	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
PSV	4	2	0	20	5	10
Utrecht	3	3	0	16	6	9
Groningen	4	1	1	16	8	9
Ajax	4	0	0	15	4	9
Volendam	3	1	1	10	11	7

ITALY

Ascoli v Verona	1-3
Chemonese v Torino	2-1
Fiorentina v Ac Milan	0-0
Inter v Avellino	2-1
Juventus v Atalanta	5-1
Napoli v Sampdoria	1-1
Roma v Coma	1-1
Udinese v Lazio	5-0

	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Verona	2	0	0	6	2	6
Udinese	1	1	0	2	3	3
Juventus	1	1	0	5	1	3
Inter Milan	1	1	0	3	2	3
Sampdoria	1	1	0	2	1	3
Fiorentina	1	1	0	2	0	3



JOAO HAVELANGE

JET-SETTER HAVELANGE

FIFA president Joao Havelange is certainly not an armchair president, judging by his many trips around the world on football business.

Havelange recently went to Barbados, the only place in the Americas he had not previously visited.

Immediately after the Olympic Games football final, the FIFA boss went to Puerto Rico and then on to Barbados. The FIFA boss then moved on to Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, for the Concacaf Youth tournament.



BRIGHTON BATTLE OVER BIG JOE

THERE is big trouble between Brighton and goalkeeper Joe Corrigan but Corrigan says it's not his fault.

When he came back from the USA a year ago, Corrigan was given a top contract with Brighton for three years.

But after only one year, Brighton decided they had no place for English international Corrigan in their plans.

"I was told Brighton wanted a younger team. Then they signed Frank Worthington and he's hardly a youngster," complained the big goalkeeper.

His parting shot was: "My face may not fit any more but I'm not going to throw away the security I got for my family — just to suit Brighton. That's their problem, not mine."

□ **JOE CORRIGAN:** no place at Brighton.



ROVERS REMAIN LOYAL

BRISTOL ROVERS have a glamour tie against Arsenal in the Milk Cup but they have resisted the temptation to switch from their ancient Eastville ground to a better stadium.

Because of police safety limits, Eastville can now take only 12,000 spectators.

"We have the most de-

crepit stadium in the country," said Rovers official Gordon Bennett, "but we owe loyalty to our patrons."

At a better ground, Rovers v Arsenal could attract 25,000 spectators and prices could be upped for the big attraction.

But the game stays at Eastville — with no increase in charges.

GOALS FOR PAUL

PAUL GODDARD is back from injury — and that's good news for his club West Ham United and also for England.

The Hammers forward played only five times last season, scoring just one goal.

In his comeback game against Southampton recently, Goddard headed two first half goals to set his team on the road to a 3-2 victory.

"As far as confidence is concerned, those two goals helped a lot. It's been a long time since I scored," said Goddard.



□ **GEORGE REILLY:** wants to be a regular.

TROUBLE AT WATFORD

THERE has been a revolt by Watford players over cash but manager Graham Taylor has settled it after talking individually to each player.

The Watford men's beef concerned bonus money for success in the F.A. Cup.

Players reckon they didn't get enough bonus for taking Watford to Wembley last season and they didn't want to agree to a similar cash arrangement this season.

Taylor has other player-power problems. First, Mo Johnston demanded a transfer and then George Reilly said he would not stay unless he was a first team regular.

Johnston, incidentally, has been taken off the transfer list.

UNITED HIT BACK AT THE CRITICS

WHEN Manchester United started the season with four draws, dropping eight precious points, some critics immediately wrote them off as championship contenders.



□ **JESPER OLSEN**

Chelsea's Welsh international winger Mickey Thomas, who used to play for United, was among the critics.

Thomas said: "Unless something drastic happens, they can forget the title. For the first time I can remember, United look a very ordinary side. If I was a supporter, I'd be worried about their chances."

Since Thomas made those comments, Manchester United looked a super side in the 5-0 humbling of Newcastle United and Old Trafford fans are delighted at the way new boys Jesper Olsen and Gordon Strachan have fitted in.



□ **GORDON STRACHAN**

ROCKY BORO BOSS

RUMOURS have already been heard about some English team managers getting the bullet... and the season has only just started.

Willie Maddren of Middlesbrough is tipped to be the first casualty of the season.

Middlesbrough had played only five games when the talk started. Indeed, it was said Middlesbrough had already lined up Willie's successor, former Manchester City boss John Bond.

Bond was sacked recently by Burnley. His job there has gone to John Benson.

WHEN West Ham beat Watford 2-0 at Upton Park, old favourite Billy Bonds came on as a substitute for the Hammers.

It was Bonds' 700th League appearance for the club, quite a milestone to pass in semi-retirement.

EDUCATING HATELEY

ENGLAND's mercenaries on the Continent didn't take long to encounter some of the headaches they'll face this season.

Steve Archibald, after helping Barcelona beat the old enemy Real Madrid 3-0, had to run for cover from the rampaging Madrid fans. And Barcelona's team bus had its windows smashed as it left the Bernabeu Stadium.

In Italy, meanwhile, Mark Hateley made headlines with AC Milan even before the season started when he was sent off for allegedly butting an opponent.

"I'm putting it down to part of my education," said Hateley.

CHARLIE NOW THE DARLING

CHARLIE NICHOLAS has made a great start to the season with Arsenal after his miserable 1983-84 debut season.

Nicholas had the chance of going to Manchester United or Liverpool when he left Celtic but surprised a lot of people by opting for Arsenal.

"People said I'd made a bad decision at the time but they may soon be thinking I made the right decision," said Nicholas.

"With players like Tony Woodcock and Paul Mariner alongside me,

Arsenal have a great chance of success this season.

"People say I am playing well but the truth is the whole Arsenal side is playing well and it's rubbing off on me," he added.

Joe Fagan, the Liverpool boss who failed to sign Nicholas, said: "I'm glad the boy is playing well. He took some stick last season but I always knew he could play."

NOTTS HAVE TO BUY

WATFORD centre-half Steve Sims has gone to Notts County for a fee of \$80,000 and Notts have also signed Alan Young, a forward, from Brighton for \$130,000.

It seems Notts County are already getting anxious about their side, having kicked off the season with one win in six games.

Sims was paid a compliment by Watford boss Graham Taylor after signing for Notts.

"We owe Steve a great deal of gratitude," said Taylor, "but his contract was coming to an end and this move will give him regular first team football."

ENGLISH DIVISION ONE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Tottenham	7	4	1	2	16	7	13
Arsenal	7	4	1	2	15	9	13
Notts Forest	7	4	1	2	14	8	13
Man United	7	2	5	0	12	4	11
Sheffield Wed	7	3	2	2	13	11	11
Everton	7	3	2	2	11	12	11
West Ham	7	3	2	2	8	9	11
Liverpool	7	2	4	1	12	10	10
Newcastle	7	3	1	3	15	18	10
Aston Villa	7	3	1	3	11	15	10
Chelsea	7	2	3	2	8	7	9
QPR	6	2	3	1	13	13	9
Sunderland	7	2	3	2	7	7	9
Leicester	7	2	3	2	11	12	9
Norwich	7	2	3	2	10	11	9
West Brom	7	2	3	2	12	11	8
Ipswich	7	1	5	1	8	8	8
Southampton	7	1	3	3	9	12	6
Luton	7	1	3	3	6	11	6
Coventry	7	1	2	4	4	9	5
Stoke	6	1	2	3	5	12	5
Watford	7	0	4	3	11	15	4

ENGLISH DIVISION TWO

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Birmingham	7	6	0	1	12	3	18
Oxford	6	5	1	0	15	6	16
Blackburn	7	4	2	1	16	7	14
Portsmouth	6	4	2	0	7	1	14
Charlton	7	4	1	2	14	7	13
Shrewsbury	7	4	0	3	15	10	12
Brighton	6	4	0	2	10	5	12
Leeds	7	4	0	3	11	9	12
Man City	7	3	2	2	11	7	11
Sheffield Utd	6	2	3	1	11	8	9
Fulham	7	3	0	4	11	13	9
Grimsby	7	3	0	4	10	12	9
Barnsley	7	2	2	3	6	6	8
Wolves	7	2	2	3	9	11	8
Carlisle	7	2	2	3	6	11	8
Wimbledon	6	2	1	3	12	15	7
Crystal Palace	6	2	1	3	7	10	7
Oldham	6	2	1	3	5	8	7
Huddersfield	7	1	3	3	6	13	6
Cardiff	7	1	0	6	6	17	3
Notts County	7	1	0	6	5	17	3
Middlesbrough	6	0	1	5	7	16	1

ENGLISH DIVISION THREE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Bristol Rovers	6	5	1	0	9	1	16
York	6	4	2	0	13	6	14
Gillingham	6	4	1	1	12	5	13
Millwall	6	4	1	1	11	5	13
Doncaster	6	4	0	2	12	7	12
Preston	6	4	0	2	9	8	12
Bristol City	6	3	2	1	10	7	11
Brentford	5	3	1	1	7	2	10
Bradford	6	3	1	2	6	5	10
Hull	6	2	3	1	7	3	9
Rotherham	6	2	2	2	7	6	8
Derby	6	2	2	2	7	8	8
Bournemouth	6	2	2	2	6	7	8
Burnley	6	1	4	1	6	6	7
Reading	6	2	1	3	5	9	7
Walsall	6	1	3	2	8	10	6
Wigan	6	2	0	4	3	9	6
Bolton	6	1	1	4	11	11	4
Plymouth	6	0	4	2	7	13	4
Swansea	6	1	1	4	6	13	4
Lincoln	6	0	3	3	5	8	3
Newport	5	0	3	2	5	3	3
Orient	6	1	0	5	6	13	3
Cambridge	6	1	0	5	5	14	3

ENGLISH DIVISION FOUR

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Hereford	6	5	1	0	10	0	16
Bury	6	5	1	0	15	6	16
Chesterfield	6	5	0	1	13	7	15
Peterborough	6	4	1	1	8	3	13
Crewe	6	4	0	2	12	8	12
Darlington	6	2	4	0	9	4	10
Blackpool	6	2	3	1	8	4	9
Colchester	6	2	3	1	12	10	9
Port Vale	6	2	3	1	8	6	9
Chester	6	2	3	1	7	6	9
Tranmere	6	3	0	3	7	6	9
Mansfield	6	2	1	3	7	6	7
Exeter	6	2	1	3	8	9	7
Wrexham	6	2	1	3	7	9	7
Swindon	6	2	1	3	7	11	7
Stockport	6	1	3	2	6	7	6
Torquay	6	1	3	2	5	8	6
Halifax	6	2	0	4	3	8	6
Alldershot	6	1	2	3	5	8	5
Rochdale	6	1	2	3	3	8	5
Hartlepool	6	1	2	3	6	12	5
Southend	6	0	4	2	7	9	4
Scunthorpe	6	0	2	4	9	14	2
Northampton	6	0	1	5	1	14	1

SCOTTISH PREMIER DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Aberdeen	7	6	1	0	16	3	13
Rangers	7	4	3	0	8	1	11
Celtic	7	3	4	0	10	3	10
Dundee United	7	3	1	3	11	9	7
St Mirren	7	3	1	3	8	7	7
Dundee	7	3	0	4	11	11	6
Dumbarton	7	2	1	4	8	11	5
Hearts	7	2	0	5	5	10	4
Morton	7	2	0	5	4	19	4
Hibernian	7	1	1	5	6	13	3

SCOTTISH DIVISION ONE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Airdrieonians	7	5	0	2	9	6	10
Clydebank	7	4	1	2	11	3	9
Motherwell	7	4	1	2	10	6	9
Ayr	7	2	5	0	7	3	9
Forfar	7	4	0	3	15	7	8
Clyde	7	2	4	1	9	6	8
Brechin	7	3	2	2	10	8	8
East Fife	7	2	4	1	15	14	8
Hamilton	7	3	2	2	9	8	8
Partick	7	1	3	3	8	11	5
Falkirk	7	2	1	4	9	14	5
Meadowbank	7	0	4	3	8	14	4
Kilmarnock	7	1	2	4	5	15	4
St Johnstone	7	1	1	5	9	19	3

SCOTTISH DIVISION TWO

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Dunfermline	7	6	0	1	16	5	12
Alloa	7	5	2	0	10	3	12
Stenhousemuir	7	3	3	1	7	7	9
Cowdenbeath	7	4	0	3	15	8	8
Queens Park	7	4	0	3	15	11	8
Montrose	7	4	0	3	13	12	8
Queen of Sth	7	2	3	2	10	9	7
Albion	7	3	1	3	11	14	7
Stirling	7	1	3	3	7	7	5
Berwick	7	2	1	4	7	8	5
Raith	7	2	1	4	8	14	5
Arbroath	7	2	1	4	5	11	5
Stranraer	7	2	0	5	5	13	4
East Stirling	7	0	3	4	9	16	3